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THE ABRAHAM BROMBERG COLLECTION
OF JEWISH COINS

Part I



5 December, 1991

THE ABRAHAM BROMBERG COLLECTION

OF JEWISH COINS

Part I

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THE BROMBERG COLLECTION

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A WORD FROM THE COLLECTOR

I was born in Leipzig, the son of a fur trader. In fact, my family has been fur traders for six generations. Because of our family business, the difficulty Jews had in Europe and central Russia (my grandmother lived in Moscow) during the Great War, the Russian Revolution and World War II, I lived in many countries, adopting all and yet none as truly my own.

As a boy, I collected stamps; the passion grew, and eventually I formed a comprehensive collection of the Mandate postage stamps of Palestine, including all the rare overprints and perforation varieties. In this endeavor, the renowned expert Werner Hoexter guided me, along with the assistance of Major Darlow. It is through Werner Hoexter that I met his former fellow student Leo Mildenberg in Zürich in 1950, but I must save this for later. You see, I believe when you collect you must become a dealer as well, indirectly, to know all about the market itself, the buying and selling. Also, you should become an expert as well in one specialized field, so you can know a little bit more than others; only then does true joy begin.

I met Leo Mildenberg in 1950, as I mentioned, through Werner Hoexter, purchasing from him at Bank Leu two ancient Jewish coins. Leo Mildenberg had started the numismatic department for Bank Leu in Zürich in 1949, so my relationship with him goes back a long way. I well know by now that obtaining the advice of an expert is indispensable in forming a substantial collection. Later I received the valuable advice of Ya'akov Meshorer, Keeper of the Coins of the Israel Museum. At that time, I could not afford to collect both stamps and coins. After having sold my philatelic holdings, I began to collect Jewish coins seriously.

I have had much excitement trying to obtain as complete as possible a collection by dies of the Bar Kokhba coinage outlined in Mildenberg's corpus. In the mid-seventies it was a fortunate time for this, as many large hoards were on the market, and with the help of several friends in Israel and the guidance of Leo Mildenberg, my collection was indeed taking good shape. While I feel that the Year 4 Half Bronzes [nos. 73-74 in this catalogue] are my favorites and I consider them the most fascinating of all ancient Jewish coins, the obtaining of the great rarities struck in the Jewish War - the prototype shekel and quarter shekel in this catalogue and the half shekel of year 4 and shekel of year 5 to be offered in 1992 - was filled with great excitement and some intrigue.

A great deal of understanding and encouragement in my collecting endeavors has come from my wife Ursula. I wish to publicly thank her for her assistance and patience. We felt the collection was too large to offer at one time, so the second part will be held one year from now, in December of 1992. All my proceeds from the sale of the coins will be given to Jewish institutions. While I am saddened by the loss of the coins themselves, this scholarly reference catalogue will provide me with great pride; also, I will feel satisfaction that other collectors will find new treasures.

Abraham Bromberg

ON COLLECTING JEWISH COINS

What are Jewish coins - issues by a Jewish minting authority, money struck in Jewish territory, emissions pertaining to the land of Israel? These are quite different things, but they come together, nevertheless, and form a unity by the passion of the collector. Substantial groups of Jewish coins assembled by private collectors have been recently offered in auction sale catalogues. The conception, however, of two separate catalogues describing the entire ensemble formed by one man during half a century seems a daring enterprise, especially as his holdings may constitute the most important collection ever. Some introductory remarks may, therefore, be appropriate.

THE YEHUD COINS

These small silver coins were struck in Jerusalem by the governors for the province of Judaea in Persian, Macedonian and early Ptolemaic times, thus during almost a century. In all three periods, these tiny coins have the same Palaeo-Semitic script, same metal, same denominations and same naming of the province. This is a unique fact in ancient history. Further, these small silver coins destroyed the currency protection fences which the Ptolemies had erected around their realm and provide us with the first portrait of a living queen, Berenike I. The governors - whether they were themselves Jews or not - thus produced the daily cash for the people living in Judaeian territory. They were thoughtful enough to label it in semitic characters. All these are good reasons for the collector not to neglect these tiny lights sparkling in the dark fourth century of Jewish history.

THE HASMONAEANS

It was by permission of the Seleukid kings that the Hasmonaeian rulers struck their coins in bronze exclusively, not in silver, but in large quantities circulating in a vast area. As recent Israeli scholarship has shown, Hyrcanus I was the first ruler to issue his own money. The Hasmonaeian bronzes display Palaeo-Hebrew and Greek legends combined with Jewish and pagan types, but again the light was lit by the last Hasmonaeian king on his menorah-coin to remind the beholder of the marvels of the temple in Jerusalem. The curious collector may wonder whether the Hasmonaeian bronzes were, indeed, sovereign Jewish coins, but he may remember that Alexander Jannaeus was a ruthless conqueror and an independent potentate who acted in open neglect of the ruler on the throne of the ailing Seleukid kingdom.

THE HERODIANS

Herod I, the founder of the dynasty, an outstanding diplomat, ruler and builder, was an Idumaeian, not a Jew, but he acted as a Jewish monarch in Jewish and neighboring lands. Being entirely dependent on Rome, he became king in 40 B.C.E., after having been nominated ethnarch by Marc Antony in 42. The latter fact did not prevent Herod to stay in favor with Augustus and to grasp in troubled times after Caesar's death all possibilities to reinforce his reign and to enlarge his territories. He succeeded not only to build the fortresses of his Herodium and on Masada, but to have the Temple of the Jews resurrected in Jerusalem on its proper site. His modest bronze coins, however, stand in striking contrast to the magnificence of his deeds. He realized the impossibility to strike silver coins in his own right, because this would have meant the end of his rule from the grace of Rome - and of his life. In the coinage it becomes obvious that Herod the Great remained a client king, but a man who never lost his dignity. This is evident when one realizes that the last king of his house, Agrippa II, praised on his coins the Roman victory in the *Bellum Judaicum* at the end of his reign of nearly 40 years! Herod divided his territories between his three sons who produced bronze coins in their Jewish and non-Jewish lands. The great attraction of the bronze money produced by Herod I's sons is the apparition of their portraits - unique images of the last Jewish kings.

THE PROCURATORS

After the banishment of Herod Archelaus in 6 C.E., the Roman prefects took the money production over and promptly issued the necessary small cash in the name of and with the reigning dates of the Roman emperors. They strictly refrained, however, to show any human image. The mint was Jerusalem, the output prolific. The money policy in the bronze coinage was quite flexible. When Agrippa I became king in 41 C.E., the minting authority was given back to him. After his death in the year 44, the procuratorial coinage was revived and lasted until 66, the beginning of the Jewish War.

BELLUM JUDAICUM

The Jewish coinage of 66-70 and 132-135 C.E. is a *res sui generis*. From the Roman point of view, both events were rebellions and had to be subdued. From the Jewish point of view, these were wars of liberation. It was the exclusive prerogative of the Roman emperor to produce money in precious metals. The Jews' striking of the silver shekels in the *Bellum Judaicum* and of the large and small silver coins in the Bar Kokhba War was in itself a declaration of independence. In 66 C.E. this was still emphasized by the quite unusual, thick flans, the monumental Palaeo-Hebrew letters, the genuine Jewish images and the proclamatory inscription "Shekel of Israel" and "Jerusalem the Holy." At this time, the Herodian Temple still stood intact and the silver supply was secured by the incoming temple dues. It did not occur to the Jewish warriors that their regained freedom may end soon, as they dated their coins from the beginning of year 1 to the end of year 5.

THE BAR KOKHBA WAR

In 132 C.E., the situation was different. The temple was destroyed, however, the dues, nevertheless, went to Rome. The Jewish state did not exist anymore, but most of the Judaeans still lived on their land and were well off, as the hand of the Roman administration in Judaea was not harder than in any other province. Only a drastic change, a massive provocation, could change this state of affairs. And this occurred around 130 C.E. when the emperor Hadrian stayed in Judaea. He then decided to have his Roman city built in Jerusalem naming it after his *gens* and the supreme Roman god *Aelia Capitolina* and to forbid circumcision. The Jews in Judaea under the command of Shim'on bar Kosiba, whom later generations called Bar Kokhba, stood up against the great emperor, the ruler of the world. Again, new money was produced, but this time foreign coins had to be overstruck, as the temple treasure did not exist any more. Again, Jewish images were chosen and proclamatory legends engraved in more cursive Palaeo-Hebrew letters. This rich and diversified coinage in silver and bronze testified more than anything else for the resurrection of the Jewish state and the renaissance of Jewish culture. The money of 66-70 and 132-135 was, indeed, a truly sovereign Jewish coinage and - no wonder - the favorite of the amateur collector of Jewish coins.

Leo Mildenberg

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NOTES TO THE CATALOGUE

In the following coin descriptions, Palaeo-Hebrew (or Palaeo-Aramaic) is followed by a left-right transliteration and finally the English equivalent of the inscription. Weights are given in grams and the die axis is shown by an arrow indicating the orientation of the reverse as regards the obverse at 12 o'clock. Thus, a downward arrow (↓) would signify ↑ ↓; when held within the fingers, the coin's obverse is aligned to 12 o'clock, and when the coin is flipped, the reverse is upside down, pointing to 6 o'clock, just like the penny in your pocket.

Many copper-alloy coins described do not have stated denominations; we simply do not possess historical sources which discuss them as a class. In these instances, the diameter is measured in millimeters, when holding the obverse of a coin in a 12 o'clock position; the measurement is then computed across the obverse, from 9 o'clock to 3 o'clock.

In such a comprehensive and exceptional collection of this kind one becomes weary to read "rare," "very rare," etc. for so many applicable entries. While these appellations are used in specific instances, this omission should *not* be construed as inferring the discussed coin is common or even merely scarce.

ABBREVIATIONS

B.C.E.	Before Common Era [same as B.C.]
C.E.	Common Era [same as A.D. (<i>anno Domini</i>)]
Mesh ¹	Y. Meshorer, <i>Jewish Coins of the Second Temple Period</i> , Tel-Aviv, 1967. <i>This volume is used by collectors as an easy-to-use general reference for which Mesh ¹ numbers are herein used to describe types, not generally specific dies (unless applicable).</i>
Mesh ²	Y. Meshorer, <i>Ancient Jewish Coinage</i> , Dix Hills, New York, 1983. <i>The most exhaustive two-volume reference encompassing the entire field of ancient Jewish coinage. It is utilized in this catalogue to delineate variants as well as specific dies whenever possible.</i>
Mild	L. Mildenberg, <i>The Coinage of the Bar Kokhba War</i> , Aarau, 1984. <i>This is a die corpus of all known Bar Kokhba coinage. In each instance Mild is used in describing specific die combinations utilized in the production of Bar Kokhba coinage. In addition, a listing of all known specimens of each die combination is given as well as over a hundred pages of prefatory information of background historical information. As can be seen by the number of illustrated and directly quoted specimens, the Bromberg Collection is the finest and much-consulted collection of Bar Kokhba coinage.</i>

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ANS	American Numismatic Society, New York.
ANSMN	American Numismatic Society: Museum Notes, New York.
ANSNM	American Numismatic Society: Numismatic Notes and Monographs, New York.
ANSNS	American Numismatic Society: Numismatic Studies, New York.
Applebaum, <i>Judaea</i>	S. Applebaum, "Judaea as a Roman Province: the Countryside as a Political and Economic Factor," <i>ANRW</i> II, 8 (1977) pp. 335-396.
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Avi-Jonah, <i>Palaestina</i>	M. Avi-Jonah, "Palaestina," <i>RE</i> , Supplementband XIII, München, 1974, cols. 321-454.
Baron	S.W. Baron, A Social and Religious History of the Jews, II, 2nd ed., New York-London, 1952.
BMC	British Museum Catalogue of the Greek Coins of Palestine by G.F. Hill, London, 1914, pp. 284-316, pls. 32-38.
BMC followed by specific titles	Other parts of the above catalogue, London, 1873 ff. (e.g., <i>BMC Phoenicia</i>).
BMC	British Museum Catalogue of the Coins of the Roman Empire, I-VI, London, 1923-1962.
Bowersock, <i>Perspective</i>	G.W. Bowersock, "A Roman Perspective on the Bar Kochba War," <i>Approaches to Ancient Judaism</i> , II, ed. W.S. Green, Brown Judaic Studies 9, Ann Arbor, Mich., 1980, pp. 131-141.
BT	Babylonian Talmud, always followed by the name of the respective tractate.
CAH	Cambridge Ancient History, ed. J.B. Bury-S.A. Cook et al, Cambridge 1923- .
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Cohen	H. Cohen, Médailles impériales, I-VIII, 2nd ed., Paris, 1880-1890.
<i>Coin Hoards</i>	Coin Hoards, The Royal Numismatic Society London, 1975- .
CNP	Corpus Nummorum Palaestinensium, vols. 1-4, Jerusalem, 1956-1961.
Dio	Cassius Dio Cocceianus, Roman History, Book 69. English translation by E. Cary, Loeb Classical Library, Cambridge, Mass.-London, 1925.
DJD	Discoveries in the Judaean Desert, vol. II by P. Benoit, J.T. Milik and R. de Vaux, Oxford, 1961 and vol. III by M. Baillet, J.T. Milik and R. de Vaux, Oxford, 1962.
EJ	Encyclopaedia Judaica, Jerusalem, 1972.
Essays Mildenberg	Various authors, Festschrift für/Studies in Honor of Leo Mildenberg, Wetteren, 1984.
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Hendin	D. Hendin, Guide to Biblical Coins, New York, 1987.
<i>Herodion</i>	Herodion III, Catalogo delle monete, by Augusto Spijkerman, Jerusalem, 1972.
<i>Hideaways</i>	A. Kloner, A. Oppenheimer, M. Gichon and Y. Yadin, "Subterranean Hideaways in the Judean Shefelah?" <i>Cathedra</i> 26 (Jerusalem, December 1982) pp. 3-46.
<i>IEJ</i>	Israel Exploration Journal, Jerusalem.
<i>INConv.</i>	International Numismatic Convention, Jerusalem, 27-31. 12. 1963, Proceedings, Tel-Aviv-Jerusalem, 1967.
<i>INJ</i>	Israel Numismatic Journal, Tel-Aviv, Jerusalem.
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Mor-Rappaport	M. Mor and U. Rappaport, Bibliography, <i>Bar-Kokhva's Revolt - New Studies</i> , Jerusalem, 1983, in Hebrew.
<i>PT</i>	Palestinian or Jerusalem Talmud, always followed by the name of the respective tractate.
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<i>SM</i>	Schweizer Münzblätter - Gazette Numismatique Suisse, Bern-Basel.
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<i>SNG</i>	Sylloge Nummorum Graecorum, with indication of collection.
<i>SNR</i>	Schweizerische Numismatische Rundschau-Revue Suisse de Numismatique, Bern.
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10. All material shall be sold in separate lots to the highest bidder as determined by the Auctioneer. If any dispute arises during or immediately after the sale of a lot, Superior shall have the right to rescind the lot offered and put the lot up for sale again. In all cases, Auctioneer's decision shall be final. For the mail bidder's protection, no "unlimited" or "buy" bids will be accepted. The auctioneer in his sole discretion may reject any bid received.
11. Unless otherwise agreed in writing, auction sales are strictly cash in U.S. funds payable through a bank in the United States. Contact the Auction Company for wiring instructions before sending a wire. The auctioneer reserves the right to decline to release lots for which funds have not yet cleared. On any accounts past due, Superior reserves the right to extend credit and impose periodic charges as stated in these Terms of Sale or on the invoice or statement. Buyer agrees to pay reasonable attorneys fees and costs required to collect on such past due accounts. Lots must be paid for the earlier of receipt of invoice or delivery.
12. **No credit card purchases will be accepted.** Bids will not be accepted from those persons under eighteen (18) years of age without a parent's written consent which acknowledges the terms and conditions of sale herein and agrees to be bound thereby on behalf of the bidder.
13. By bidding in this sale, bidder personally guarantees payment. If a corporation is bidder, the officers and/or principals of the corporation agree to personally guarantee payment as part of their agreeing to bid, and the corporate representative present at the sale represents that

a corporate resolution binding each such officer is on file with the corporation in its minute book which shall be presented to Superior upon request.

14. By bidding in this sale, the bidder certifies to the auctioneer, the cataloguer, and Superior that they are not engaging in a consumer transaction and that they are not seeking to acquire the lots for personal, family or household purposes. If a corporation is the bidder, such bidder certifies that the purchase is in the ordinary course of business has been approved by the Board of Directors.
15. Floor bidders and mail bidders who have not established credit with Superior or the auctioneer must furnish satisfactory credit references or deposit at least twenty-five percent (25%) of their total bids for that session(s) or such other amounts as Superior may require before such bids will be accepted. Deposits submitted will be applied to purchases and any unused portion of such deposit will be promptly refunded upon clearance of the funds.
16. Bids must be for an entire lot and each lot constitutes a separate sale. No lot will be broken up unless the auctioneer otherwise determines. Lots will be sold in their numbered sequence unless Auctioneer directs otherwise.
17. This is not an approval sale. All lots sold to the highest bidder as determined by Auctioneer are final. Floor bidders are encouraged to carefully examine all lots which they are interested in purchasing since **no lot purchased by a floor bidder may be returned**, including those lots where the bidder is acting as agent for another, or to mail bidders who have examined the lot prior to sale. **There are no returns or refunds except by reason of lack of authenticity, unless provided elsewhere in the catalogue or these terms of sale.**
18. All items may be viewed by prospective bidders who have registered with Superior prior to the sale in accordance with the notice of exhibition. Registered bidders should examine all lots with care since by examining the lots, they agree to be liable for any damage caused to the item.
19.
 - a. All items offered in this catalogue are guaranteed to be genuine. This is a limited warranty that the item sold is not counterfeit, and that its date or mintmark has not been altered. Any other warranty is expressly disclaimed, including a warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. Superior offers no representation that a numismatic item has or has not been cleaned; that any toning is natural or artificial; that any coin will meet the standards or grade of any grading service; that any item has a particular provenance, or that a numismatic item is struck or produced in a particular style. Claims to the contrary must be made in writing to Superior within ten (10) days after receipt of material. Any catalogue descriptions are opinion only.
 - b. No lot may be returned without prior written consent of Superior.
 - c. Questions regarding the minting of a coin as a proof or as a business strike relate to the method of manufacture and not to authenticity.
 - d. If a lot is to be returned, it must be housed in its original, sealed and unopened container.
 - e. Late remittance or removal of any lot from its original container constitutes just cause for revocation of all return privileges for any reason.
 - f. In no event may any lot be returned after thirty (30) days from the date of the sale.
 - g. Superior shall not be bound by any prior, or subsequent opinion, determination or certification by any grading service and lots are sold under the condition that any claims to the contrary regarding grading, authenticity or methods of manufacture must be made in writing within ten (10) days of receipt of material. The descriptions contained herein represent the cataloguer's good faith opinion or the opinion of a grading service where indicated as to the state of preservation and strike. No warranty, whether express or implied, including a warranty of merchant-ability is made with respect to any grading description which is an opinion only that is likely to differ, event among experts.
 - h. Grading or condition of rare coins may have a material effect on the value of the items purchased; and the opinion of others (including affiliated companies) may differ with the grading opinions or interpretations of Superior. Such difference of opinion (including whether the coin has been cleaned, or is or is not of a particular grade or quality) is not grounds to return an item purchased; and that all sales of items viewed by a purchaser in advance of a sale, even if the sale is by mail, and all lots bid upon by floor bidders, and those presenting Superior with a resale certificate, are final.
 - i. All oral and written statements made by Superior and its employees (including affiliated and related companies) are statements of opinion only , and are not warranties or representations of any kind, unless stated as a specific written warranty, and no employee or agent of superior has authority to vary or alter these terms of sale. any alteration shall be effective only if in writing and signed by an officer.
 - j. Bidders shall have no recourse against the consignor for any reason whatsoever.
20. Superior reserves the right to open the lot at a reasonable price and to withdraw any lot at any time, even after the hammer has fallen, until the buyer has taken physical possession of the lot. No consignor who has registered to bid at the sale (or at any other time unless otherwise provided in the consignment agreement), or any buyer or prospective bidder shall have a right to claim any consequential damages if a lot is withdrawn, even after the sale.
21. When identical bids are received by Superior for a lot, preference is given to the first bid received as determined by the auctioneer. A mail bid will take precedence over an identical floor bid; a floor bidder must bid higher than the highest mail bid to be awarded any lot. Auctioneer reserves the right to refuse any bid, to reduce any mail bid received, to open the lot at any level deemed appropriate by the auctioneer and to determine the prevailing bid, in his sole discretion.
22. Auctioneer is not responsible for errors in bidding. A bidder should make certain to bid on the correct lot and that the bid is the maximum

(plus the ten percent (10%) Buyer's Commission) that he or she is willing and able to pay. Because other bidders (by mail and in person) are present, and because a re-offering could damage the momentum of the sale, once the hammer has fallen and the auctioneer announced the winning bidder, such bidder is unconditionally bound to pay for the lot, even if the bidder has made a mistake.

23. Sales tax, if required by law to be collected, postage, handling and insurance plus the ten percent (10%) Buyer's Commission, and any other taxes required by law to be charged or collected will be added to the invoice for any lot(s) that is invoiced to the successful bidder. Bidders wishing to pick up their lots must provide Superior with their New York resale certificates, or New York State issued Out-of-State resale permit (OSR Permit) or pay local sales tax at the rate of 8.25% or applicable local rates. This applies equally to dealers from the United States, and/or from outside the United States. New York State law requires that sales tax be imposed if a resale certificate or OSR Permit is not on file with Superior and the lots are picked up in New York or shipped to a New York address. Superior can assist a bidder in obtaining an OSR Permit, if requested, ten (10) days prior to the sale. On any tax not paid by purchaser which should have been paid, even if not collected by Superior by mistake, error, negligence or gross negligence, purchaser agrees to pay the same on demand together with any interest or penalty that may be assessed. Purchaser grants to Superior the right to offset any sums due, or found to be due, under these Terms of Sale, or any sums due purchaser by Superior, and to make such offset from any past, subsequent or future consignment, or items acquired by purchaser in possession or control of Superior to the extent of the maximum indebtedness, plus all accrued expenses, until the indebtedness is paid. In any event purchaser grants Superior the right under the Uniform Commercial Code, to file a purchase money security interest on such items without need for debtor's signature, and to assign such interest to any affiliated or related company or any third party deemed appropriate by Superior.
24. In the event of a successful challenge to the title to any goods purchased, the auctioneer agrees to reimburse any purchaser in an amount equal to the successful bid at auction plus any buyer's commission paid, in full and complete satisfaction of all claims (which, once tendered by Superior, relieves and relinquishes it from any responsibility whatsoever to the buyer, even if the instrument is not cashed or is returned). By bidding in the sale, bidder expressly consents to waive any claim for auctioneer or cataloguer, Superior or its affiliated or related companies, arising out of, or in connection with, the sale, no third party shall be entitled to rely on any benefit or right conferred by these terms and conditions of sale on any bidder or purchaser. Any bidder in the sale availing themselves to this paragraph agrees that its use acts as an assignment of their rights to Superior, or its assigns.
25. Title to any lot remains with consignor, any known secured party of the Consignor, or consignor's assigns, until the lot is paid for in full. Superior reserves the right to require payment in full before delivering any lot to the successful bidder. It is the buyer's responsibility and obligation to have the lots fully insured while in his or her possession. Risk of loss is on the buyer. If a dispute arises concerning ownership of a lot that has been bid upon, Superior reserves the right to commence a statutory interpleader proceeding at the expense of the consignor and successful bidder and any other applicable party, and in such event shall be entitled to its reasonable attorney's fees.
26. In the event a successful bidder fails to make payment when due, Superior reserves the right to resell the merchandise, or to have an affiliated or related company do so, and bidder agrees to pay for the reasonable cost of such a sale and also to successful bid, together with any incidental costs of sale and also to pay any difference between the resale price and any previous disbursements, including reasonable attorney's fees. Such expenses may include the cataloguing of an item, and any other reasonable charges, including securing opinion of counsel if necessary and the buyers premium. Any excess shall accrue to Superior as part of the cost of undertaking the sale.
27. Purchaser agrees that any claim or controversy arising out of or relating to the formation, interpretation or performance of these Terms and underlying transactions or the breach thereof, is subject to binding arbitration in accordance with the rules of the Professional Numismatists Guild, Inc., except for any claim or controversy arising out of non-payment which may be referred to judicial proceedings at the option of Superior. Arbitration or judicial proceedings shall take place in the City, County and State of New York.
28. If the auction invoice is not paid for in full when due per invoice terms, the unpaid balance will earn interest at the highest rate permitted by New York law until it is paid. In the event it exceeds the sum permitted by law, the same shall be adjusted to the maximum legal rate. If the matter is referred to an attorney for collection, bidder agrees to pay all reasonable attorneys fees, court costs and other collection costs incurred by Superior or any affiliated or related company to collect past due invoices and that the service of process by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, shall be sufficient to confer full "in personam" jurisdiction over bidder. Bidder is also liable for post-judgement costs of collection.
29. All photographs in this catalogue are of the actual items being sold but may not be the actual size.
30. Superior and the auctioneer reserve the right to postpone the auction sale or any session thereof for a reasonable period of time for any reason whatsoever, and no bidder or prospective bidder shall have any claim as a result thereof, including consequential damages.
31. Neither Superior, the Auctioneer, or any affiliated or related company shall be responsible for incidental or consequential damages arising out of any failure of the terms and conditions of the auction and sale or the conduct thereof and in no event shall liability for any such failure exceed the purchase price paid.
32. The sole remedy that any participant in the auction shall have, whether bidding in person, by mail, or through an employee or agent, for any claim or controversy arising out of the auction shall be a refund of the original purchase price and premium paid, if any. Interest shall be paid by Superior at a rate of no greater than nine percent (9%) per annum, up to a maximum of six (6) years, unless the rules of the Professional Numismatists Guild provides for a higher rate of interest or a longer period of time, in which case such rules shall prevail. A lower rate, or shorter period, may be decided by the arbitrators.
33. Upon payment of a disputed sum as determined by the arbitrators, or in full at the maximum rates set forth above, or at an agreed rate, Superior, and employees thereof, shall be deemed released from any and all claims of the bidder arising out of or in connection with the sale of such property. Buyer agrees to execute prior to delivery of any refund and documents reasonably requested to effect the intent of the paragraph. Should the buyer decline to do so, buyer hereby grants to Superior a limited power of attorney to unconditionally effect such release.

34. Rights granted to bidders and Purchasers under the within terms of sale are personal and may not be assigned or transferred to any other person or entity, whether by operation of law or otherwise. Any attempt to assign or transfer any such rights shall be absolutely void and unenforceable. No third party may rely on any benefit or right conferred by these terms and conditions of sale and terms of warranty on any bidder or purchaser. "Purchaser" shall mean the original purchaser of the property from Superior and not any subsequent owner or other person who may have or acquire an interest therein. If purchaser is an agent, the agency must be disclosed in writing to Superior at or prior to the time of sale, otherwise the benefits of the warranty shall be limited to the agent and not transferable to the undisclosed principal.
35. Should any third party attempt to utilize any warranties contained herein, they shall first give Superior thirty (30) days written notice by Registered Mail or Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested during which time Superior may, should it choose to contest the third party's claim, ask the Professional Numismatists Guild Inc. or the American Arbitration Association to appoint a panel of three arbitrators skilled in the field to make such a determination at City, County and the State of New York. By seeking to use such remedy, the third party unequivocally and without reservation consents to binding arbitration, and its conclusive and binding determination of any alleged damages as a sole and exclusive remedy. With respect to any other pertinent notice requirements, venue and personal and subject matter jurisdiction, said third party is bound to the provisions pertaining to bidders, buyers and purchasers, as otherwise provided for in these terms of sale.
36. If the Purchaser fails to comply with one or more of these Terms and Conditions of Sale then, in addition to all other remedies which it may have at law or in equity, Superior may at its sole option, either (a) cancel the sale, retaining as liquidated damages all payments made by the Purchaser, it being recognized that actual damages may be speculative or difficult to compute, or (b) sell some or all of the property and some or all other property of the Purchaser held by Superior, in a quantity sufficient in the opinion of Superior to satisfy the indebtedness, plus all accrued charges. More than one such sale may take place at the option of Superior. Such sale may take place without notice to purchaser; if Superior gives notice, it shall be by regular mail to the address utilized on the Bid Sheet, Consignment Agreement or other address known to the firm. Such sale will be at Superior's standard commission rates at public or private sale, with or without New York or at another location determined by Superior, at which time (if the sale be at auction) the defaulting party shall not bid nor be permitted to bid. The proceeds shall be applied first to the satisfaction of any damages occasioned by Purchaser's breach, and then to the payment of any other indebtedness owing to Superior, including without limitation, commissions, handling charges, the expenses of both sales, reasonable legal fees and collection agency fees and any other costs or expenses incurred hereunder. If a lot or item is not paid for, and is sold by Superior for purchaser's account, in accordance with the Uniform Commercial Code, Superior shall not be required to account to the purchaser for any excess proceeds. Purchaser is also liable to Superior if the proceeds of such sale or sales is insufficient in the opinion of Superior to cover the indebtedness. If other property of purchaser is also sold, any excess of proceeds will be remitted to the Purchaser after first deducting the expenses set forth above. If Purchaser fails to remit sums due to Superior, Purchaser grants to Superior or assigns a lien with respect to such sum, with interest to accrue thereon at the judgment rate, until actually paid, which lien shall apply against any property of purchaser, including any future goods of purchaser coming into possession of Superior. Purchaser hereby waives all the requirements of notice, advertisement and disposition of proceeds required by law, including those set forth in New York Lien Law, article 9, sections 200-204 inclusive, or any successor statute, with respect to any sale. Purchaser waives the right to redeem.
37. Bidding in this sale constitutes acceptance by the bidder of all the foregoing terms and conditions of sale.

AS STATED IN THE TERMS OF SALE:

Certain lots may be reserved by the consignor. If the Auctioneer identifies a consignor bidding on his own property an announcement will be made that the consignor is now bidding. If the consignor places a bid in the mail bid book and is successful, the auctioneer will announce that the item has been passed.

Prices Realized

Shortly after the sale a listing of the prices realized for this auction will be published and distributed to the subscribers of this catalogue. Those lots which were reacquired by the consignor according to Superior's records will be omitted.

If you have never used our mailbid system, here is an explanation. The procedure is quite simple. On the enclosed Mail Bid Form there is space provided for the lot number and the amount you are willing to bid. After carefully reading the description of the lot you wish to bid on, write down the lot number and the maximum amount you are willing to pay. For example, let us assume you are interested in bidding on Lot 1 and the maximum amount you are willing to bid is \$350.00, your bid sheet should be as shown on the right.

Before mailing, check your bid sheet for accuracy. Make certain that you bid on the correct lot and that your bid is the maximum you are willing to pay.

Bidding by mail permits you to participate in the auction as though you were in attendance. Many rarities are obtained through the medium of auctions and it can be very exciting as well as rewarding method of obtaining wonderful items for your collection. We look forward to your collrction. We look forward to your participation in our sale.

Thank you,
The Auction Department

[illegible]

A 10% Buyer's Commission will be added to individual lots sold in this sale. This amount is based on the total amount of the final bid and is then added to all invoices.

Parking on Sunday is available in our subterranean lot off Olympic Boulevard. We request that you do not park on El Camino. On Monday and Tuesday, parking is available on Olympic Boulevard from 9:30 to 3:30, and on El Camino for periods not to exceed 2 hours. Parking regulations are strictly enforced in Beverly Hills. Please consult us if you have any questions.

The Abraham Bromberg Collection of Jewish Coins

Part I

5 December 1991

Mail Bid Form

DO NOT WRITE IN BOX

DEC 91

I hereby authorize SUPERIOR GALLERIES to execute the following bid(s) at the auction to be held December 5, 1991. Please buy the following lot(s) for me at the price(s) not exceeding those shown. The bid(s) is made subject to the "Terms of Sale," and I agree to remit promptly on receipt of invoice or notification that the bid(s) is successful. This signed bid sheet constitutes an agreement between me and SUPERIOR GALLERIES.

NAME _____ Place Peel-off Label Here

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

SIGNATURE _____ PHONE _____

REFERENCES: New or unfamiliar bidders, please enclose a 25% deposit of bids or furnish references in sufficient time to be verified before the auction, otherwise, the bids will not be executed. To facilitate verification, please include full name, address and zip code. **NUMISMATIC AND/OR PHILATELIC SOCIETY REFERENCES ARE NOT SUFFICIENT TO ESTABLISH CREDIT.**

CREDIT REFERENCES:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

I have established credit with Superior. _____

Deposit on bids enclosed \$_____

IF NECESSARY, INCREASE MY BID(S) BY:

_____ 10% _____ 20% _____ 30% Other _____%

Lots will be purchased as much below bids as possible.

Prices Realized \$2.00 enclosed _____

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Sam Bromberg Collection

of Jewish Coins

Part I

5 December 1991

Bid Sheet

If Sent By FAX, Please Include: _____

Name _____

Phone

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

A Buyer's Commission of ten percent (10%) on each individual lot will be added to all purchases made by all bidders and will be based upon the total amount of the final bid.

THE BUYER'S COMMISSION WILL BE ADDED TO ALL INVOICES.

We cannot be responsible for errors in bidding. CHECK YOUR BID SHEET CAREFULLY.



THE ABRAHAM BROMBERG COLLECTION

Translating, 3 December 1981
Presented at 7:00 P.M.

As the light of the morning dawns in this world,
So will the sun dawn for the righteous
In the world to come.

Babylonian Talmud, Pesachim 2a.

THE ABRAHAM BROMBERG COLLECTION

Thursday, 5 December 1991
Promptly at 7:00 P.M.

THE YEHUD ISSUES



1 Hemiobol (Silver, 0.33g ↓). c. 350 - 340 B.C.E.

Obverse. Lily.

Reverse. 𐤎𐤅𐤍 - yhd. Falcon with widely spread wings, head right.

Mesh ¹ p. 116, x. Mesh ² p. 116, 8. L. Mildenberg, "Yehud: A Preliminary Study of the Provincial Coinage of Judaea," Essays in Honor of Margaret Thompson (Wetteren, 1979), hereafter referred to as Mildenberg, "Yehud," 11 (*this coin*). Choice very fine 1500-2000

Multum in parvo is appropriate for this minute yet diverse coinage struck in Judaea in or near Jerusalem, during Persian, Macedonian and Ptolemaic times. The first groupings of the Yehud coinage consist of Persian as well as Athenian-derived types with the legend "Yehud" inscribed in Palaeo-Aramaic or, as in this coin, Palaeo-Hebrew, proclaiming the name of the province of Judaea. This specimen utilizes the lily as the obverse type, a symbol used as early as during the building of the First Temple of Solomon. It continued to be used throughout the Second Temple Period, especially notable on the Seleukid bronzes minted at Jerusalem under Antiochos VII and Antiochos VIII, as well as with the resumption of the coins of the Jews under Alexander Jannaeus.

The earliest known alphabetic script, in which each sign (in this case, a picture-sign representing the first consonant sound of the object) stands for a single consonant, dates from the early fifteenth century B.C.E. Termed "Proto-Canaanite," this precedent form of writing includes twenty-seven symbols for consonants and was discovered at Şerabiṭ el-Khadem, in the western Sinai Peninsula, by the renowned British archaeologist and Egyptologist Sir Flinders Petrie in 1905.



2 Hemiobol (Silver, 0.315g ←). c. 350 - 340 B.C.E.

Obverse. Head of Persian Great King in *kidaris* right.

Reverse. 𐤎𐤅𐤍 - yhd. Falcon with half-spread wings, head right.

Mesh ² p. 116, 9 (same legend but wings widely spread). Mildenberg, "Yehud," 13 (*this coin*). Very fine with excellent obverse detail 1500-2000

It is fascinating to contemplate that the Jews of this period, in daily transactions, handled these tiny coins displaying such diverse elements - from the accepted and deeply revered lily to "pagan" symbols and human representations. The traditionalist approach, understanding history from a perspective possible only from a later point of view, is that of wonderment that the Jews could have accepted these human representations on their coinage. In fact, however, historical evidence supports the theory that the Jews of the fourth century B.C.E. did not respect the ban: "You should not make images..."

The Persian era ended with their defeat by Alexander the Great in 331 B.C.E., thus initiating yet another chapter in this evanescent coinage.



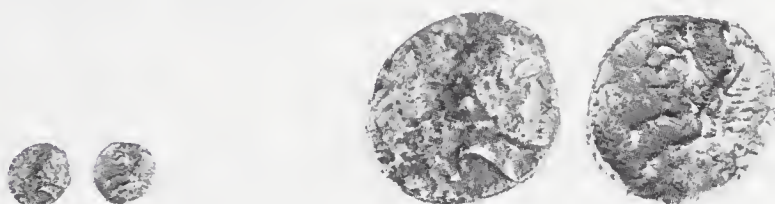
3 Hemibol (Silver, 0.22g \). c. 340 - 331 B.C.E.

Obverse. Female head facing; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤙𐤇𐤆𐤒𐤓𐤕 𐤙𐤇𐤆𐤒𐤓𐤕 - yḥzqiyh hphh - Yehezqiyah Hapehah. Owl to right with wings half-spread, head facing. Greek Letter A in lower right field.

Mesh ² p. 116, 10. Mildenberg, "Yehud," 14 (*this coin*). Striking crack at edge, extremely fine with wonderful detail
2500-3250

Likely issued under the last governor of Persian Judaea, this coin presents us with the Palaeo - Aramaic inscription "Yehezqiyah the Governor" flanking the little *chouette*, with her face almost human-like. This reverse type is clearly imitated from the Athenian "owls" which circulated in Judaea as well as all over the Greek world. The facing obverse head, certainly female because of the hair treatment, is amazingly well-modeled on this specimen and echoes far in the East the facing head issues of the great Syracusan celator Kimon as the prototype. It is noteworthy that the name of a Jew and his Persian title as governor of a province appear in coinage for the first time.



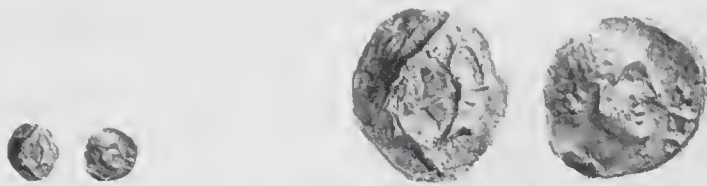
4 Hemibol (Silver, 0.21g —). c. 300 - 283/2 B.C.E.

Obverse. Head of Ptolemy I right.

Reverse. Traces of the inscription Yehezqiyah in straight line. Protome of winged lynx left.

Mesh ² p. 117, 13 (*this coin*). Mildenberg, "Yehud," 23 (*this coin*). Some porosity mainly on the obverse, otherwise very fine
2000-2500

The final phase of the Yehud coinage comes with the domination of Judaea by the Ptolemaic Kingdom. It was after the battle of Ipsus in 301 B.C.E. that Judaea fell into the hands of Ptolemy I; her land was then contested between the Ptolemaic and the Seleukid Kingdoms for a hundred years. Numismatically, we have both Ptolemaic and Seleukid regal coinage struck at such cities as Akko, Ascalon and Gaza.



5 Tetartemorion (Silver, 0.155g \sim). c. 300 - 283/2 B.C.E.

Obverse. Diademed head of Ptolemy I right.

Reverse [Ξ]ϣϥ - yhdh - Yehudah. Head of Berenike I (wife of Ptolemy I) right, hair in parallel curls combed up at the neck.

Mesh ² p. 117, 15 (*this coin*). A. Spaer, "Some More Yehud Coins," IEJ 27 (1977), 5b (*this coin*). Mildenberg, "Yehud," 27 (*this coin*). Edge chipped, otherwise very fine 3000-4000

Mainly because of the disparity of compassion for the Jews between the oppressor Ptolemy I and his more understanding son, Ptolemy II, it has been suggested that this coinage was more probably issued during the later monarch's rule. Recent scholarship, such as published in Mørkholm's recently released work, *Early Hellenistic Coinage* (Cambridge, 1991, see p. 70), points to a more secured attribution to Ptolemy I. In any event, this extremely rare coin is of great importance, for the distinct iconography of portraying both king and queen of Egypt as well as epigraphically: the Ptolemy issues herald the use of Hebrew. Instead of the earlier three-letter Aramaic form, we now read in Hebrew yhdh - Yehudah, for the province of Judaea, an unique concession not conceded to any other province under Ptolemaic rule.

THE HASMONAEANS

Alexander (Yehonatan) Jannaeus (Yannai), 103-76 B.C.E.



6 Prutah (Bronze 14mm, 2.00g \downarrow).

Obverse. ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ - [Money] of Alexander the King. Inverted anchor within a circle.

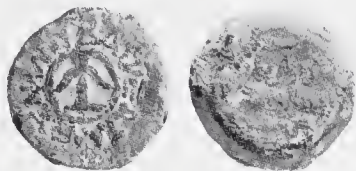
Reverse. Palaeo-Hebrew cursive inscription: hmlk yhwntn - Yehonatan the King. Lily within circle of dots.

Mesh ¹ 5 var. Mesh ² p. 118, Ab1. Very fine

175-225

Consistent with the Seleukid bronze issues of Antiochos VII, Euergetes (Sidetes), struck at Jerusalem, the first coin type struck by Jannaeus employs the anchor, commonly used as a Seleukid badge. The lily, formerly used on the Yehud issue under Persian rule (see coin #1) as well as on the Seleukid bronze quoted, is retained as the reverse. As the Hasmonaeon coin types progress, the eight-ray star chronologically follows the lily, which in its turn precedes the double cornucopia.

Alexander (Yehonatan) Jannaeus (Yannai), 103-76 B.C.E.



7 Prutah (Lead 16.5mm, 4.65g /).

Obverse. ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ - [Money] of Alexander the King. Inverted anchor within a circle.

Reverse. Aramaic inscription in three lines: mlk' 'lksn drws - Alexander the King.

Mesh ¹ 7A. Mesh ² p.122, Da2. Very fine/very good

125-175

This enigmatic issue, the only one of lead in the entire Jewish series, has parallels with those of the Seleukid Kingdom as well as those of Numidia in North Africa. In addition, there is a series of lead tesserae (tokens) struck at Alexandria in Roman Egypt (besides the Roman proper issues) which may have had a similar use. Perhaps these inscribed pieces of lead might have been an emergency coinage of some sort or a contemporary imitation.

Alexander (Yehonatan) Jannaeus (Yannai), 103-76 B.C.E.



8 Prutah (Bronze 15mm, 1.88g \).

Obverse. ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ - [Money] of Alexander the King. Inverted anchor within a circle.

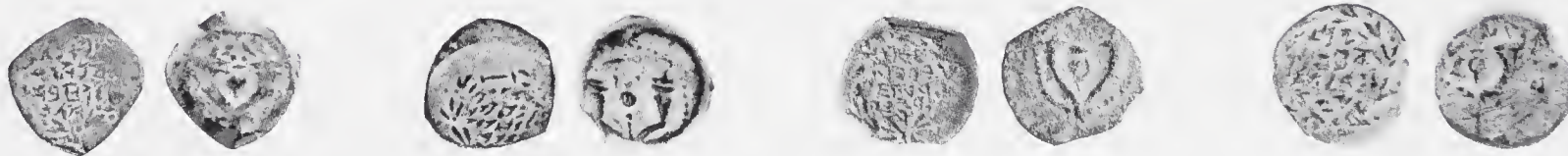
Reverse. יִזְרְיָהּ יִזְרְיָהּ - Yonatan the King. Palaeo-Hebrew inscription between the eight rays of a star, which is surrounded by a diadem.

Mesh ² 8 var (eight characters instead of ten). Mesh ² Ca12. Choice very fine

75-125

The tri-element regal symbolism of inscription, star and diadem was particularly appropriate for the coinage of the ambitious Alexander the king. His territories, which extended nearly as far as King David's, were ruled by the passionate military power of this king as well as by his dignity of being high priest of Judaea.

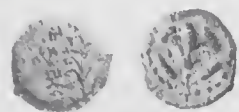
Alexander (Yehonatan) Jannaeus (Yannai), 103-76 B.C.E.



9 Lot of 4 prutot. Mesh ¹ 12, 14, 15, 17A; Mesh ² Ea 41, Gb 3, Ha 12, Ia 5. Fine-very fine

75-125

John (Yehoḥanan) Hyrcanus II, 63-40 B.C.E.



10 Lepton (Bronze 10.5mm, 1.01g ↑).

Obverse. Palaeo-Hebrew inscription: yḥ ḥnn hknhgdl ḥbrhy hdym - Yehoḥanan the High Priest and the Council of the Jews. Palm branch with fillet on top.

Reverse. Lily flower stemming from between two ears of wheat; in left field, letter A; all within border of dots.

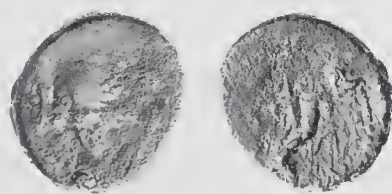
Mesh ¹ 21A. Mesh ² O1. Rare. Nearly very fine 500-700

For conformity's sake, we have chosen to list this coinage as the main Jewish coin references have done. However, recent research by Dan Barag and Shraga Qedar show quite effectively that the entire coinage of Yehoḥanan (here listed as John Hyrcanus II, lots 10 - 12) was most probably minted by Hyrcanus I (135 - 104 B.C.E.), which make these the earliest coins minted under Hasmonaeen rule.

The various denominations, with this lepton as its smallest constituent, bore the following equivalents:

2 leptons	=	1 prutah
7 leptons	=	1 chalkos
8 chalkoi	=	1 silver obol
6 obols	=	1 silver drachm
4 drachms	=	1 silver shekel (tetradrachm of the Phoenician weight standard)

John (Yehoḥanan) Hyrcanus II, 63-40 B.C.E.



11 Double Prutah (Bronze 17mm, 5.20g ↑).

Obverse. Crested helmet to right, with visor and cheek piece; border of dots.

Reverse. Palaeo-Hebrew inscription: yḥwḥ nnkhnhgdlr'šḥḥbrhyhdym (few letters legible) - Yehoḥanan the High Priest, Head of the Council of the Jews. Double cornucopia with fillets; border of dots.

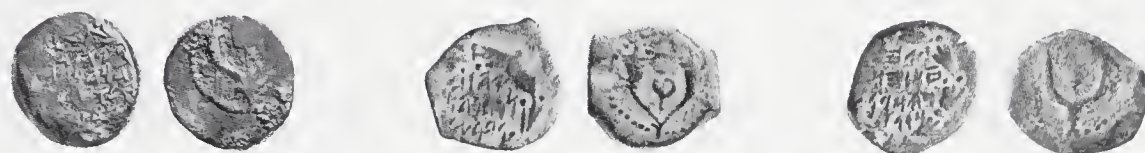
Mesh ¹ 25. Mesh ² R. Very rare. Very good-fine 6000-7500

There are only two pairs of dies known for this scant but important coinage, perhaps commemorating the granting of the title *ethnarch* by Julius Caesar to Hyrcanus II in 47 B.C.E. All specimens seen by this cataloguer are off-center to approximately the same degree, suggesting that the dies (at least one pair) were somewhat misaligned during much or all of the minting procedure.

The helmet side is obviously struck from the lower die and is thus properly considered the obverse of the coin (see the note to lot 169 for a fuller treatment of how obverse and reverse are determined). Note also the double cornucopia side is concave as is proper for the punch or upper die to effect.

Judah (Yehudah) Aristobulus II, 67-63 B.C.E

John (Yehoḥanan) Hyrcanus II, 63-40 B.C.E.



12 Lot of three prutot. Mesh ¹ 26, 27, 28; Mesh ² Ja10, La23, Q1. Fine

90-125

Mattathias Antigonus, 40-37 B.C.E.



13 Multiple Prutah (Bronze 24.5mm, 15.54g ¹).

Obverse. Palaeo-Hebrew inscription: mtttyhkhngdl whb rhy hwd ym - Matitiah the High Priest and the Council of the Jews. Double cornucopia; border of dots.

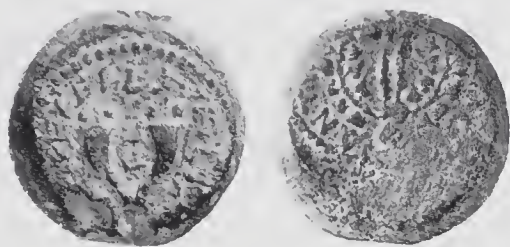
Reverse. Greek inscription; ANTIFONOIY BACIAEΩC- [Money] of Antigonus the King. Ivy wreath; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 30. Mesh ² U5. About very fine

350-450

All issues struck by Antigonus, save for the famous Menorah issue (see lot 19), were struck onto flans which had been cast from a mold; most specimens have a high lead content. This is the earliest minting of large and heavy bronzes struck by a Jewish ruler.

Mattathias Antigonus, 40-37 B.C.E.



14 Multiple Prutah (Bronze 24.5mm, 14.96g \).

Obverse. Palaeo-Hebrew inscription: mtttyhkhngdl whb rhy hwd ym - Matitiah the High Priest and the Council of the Jews. Double cornucopia; border of dots.

Reverse. Greek inscription: ANTIFONOI BACIAEQC - [Money] of Antigonus the King. Ivy wreath; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 30. Mesh ² U2. Green patina, very fine

400-500

The use by Antigonus of the priestly title in Hebrew on the obverse of this coin is significant. His enemy, Herod, could not adopt this title, utilizing only the international language, Greek, in the inscription: [money] of King Herod.

Mattathias Antigonus, 40-37 B.C.E.



15 Multiple Prutah (Bronze 23mm, 13.74g ↓).

Obverse. Palaeo-Hebrew inscription: mtttyhkhngdl whb rhy hwd ym - Matitiah the High Priest and the Council of the Jews. Double cornucopia; border of dots.

Reverse. Greek inscription: ANTIFONOI BACIAEQC - [Money] of Antigonus the King. Ivy wreath; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 30. Mesh ² U9 (*this coin illustrated*). Fine-very fine

350-450

Mattathias Antigonus, 40-37 B.C.E.



16 Multiple Prutah (Bronze 19.5mm, 7.42g /).

Obverse. Palaeo-Hebrew inscription (incomplete): mtyhkhngdl whbrhyhdym - Matitiah the High Priest and the Council of the Jews. Single cornucopia; border of dots.

Reverse. Greek inscription: BACIA ANTIF - [Money] of King Antigonus. Laurel wreath; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 31. Mesh ² V4 (*these dies*). Superlative for this type, choice very fine

400-600

The propaganda value of such weighty coins could well have been a chief *raison d'être* for their issuance by Antigonus. In comparison, the coinage of Herod was thinner. Is it possible that the shrewd Herod struck lighter coins of a larger diameter to fool the public?

Mattathias Antigonus, 40-37 B.C.E.



17 Multiple Prutah (Bronze 18.5mm, 7.58g —).

Obverse. Palaeo-Hebrew inscription (incomplete): mtyhkhngdl whbrhyhdym - Matitiah the High Priest and the Council of the Jews. Single cornucopia; border of dots.

Reverse. Incomplete Greek inscription: BACI EOCΩ TIF - [Money] of King Antigonus. Laurel wreath; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 31. Mesh ² V9 variant. Large round flan; nearly very fine

250-350

The relationship of the coin denominations minted by Antigonus is unclear. It would seem that the largest bronzes (lots 13 - 15) would be equivalent to eight prutot, the medium ones (lots 16 and 17) to four prutot; the weights of existing specimens verify this evaluation. The denomination scheme ably advanced by Y. Meshorer for the bronze coinage of Herod suggests significantly lighter coins for the four and eight prutot pieces issued concurrently with those of Antigonus.

Mattathias Antigonus, 40-37 B.C.E



18 Prutah (Bronze 13mm, 1.96g ←).

Obverse. Double cornucopia with pomegranate set between the horns; border of dots.

Reverse. Palaeo-Hebrew inscription: mtt yhk - Matitiah P[riest]. Laurel wreath; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 34. Mesh ² W1. Remarkably clear inscription; choice very fine

300-400

Mattathias Antigonus, 40-37 B.C.E.



19 Small Bronze (15mm, 1.66g ↓).

Obverse. Palaeo-Hebrew inscription (incomplete): mttyh khn gdwl - Matitiah High Priest. The Show-bread table, consisting of a flat board supported by four legs; border of dots.

Reverse. Greek inscription (incomplete): ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΑΝΤΙ - [Money] of King Antigonus. The Temple Menorah; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 36. Mesh ² Z1. Very fine

20,000-25,000

Of great rarity and utmost historical importance, this is the first and only representation on an ancient Jewish coin of the Menorah, the original one, as seen prior to the Temple destruction in 70 C.E. It is, indeed, the earliest datable picturing of a menorah in Jewish art. At the time that this coin was designed and struck, the die engraver could well have seen the actual Menorah in the Temple, and used it for a model. This coin type is unique in all of ancient Jewish coinage in that it shows articles used in Temple worship. It was produced differently than the bulk of the coins of Antigonus; also the weight standard appears to be much lighter. Could it have been a dying ember, casting only flickering shadows, now more felt than experienced, through the centuries?

The golden table was placed near the Menorah, and with the Menorah, was companion object in services. It is quite likely that the Show-bread table does not receive the veneration that the menorah does in modern times, because of the importance of bread in the Christian mass; it is understandable that the Jews would want to disassociate themselves from the Christian ceremony of bread and wine in symbolizing the body and blood of their Saviour.

THE HERODIANS

Herod the Great, 40 (37)-4 B.C.E.



20 8 Prutot (Bronze 24.5mm, 9.29g /). Minted at Samaria, dated year 3 (40 B.C.E.).

Obverse. Helmet with cheek pieces, star on top, flanked by two palm branches; border of dots.

Reverse. HPΩΔΟΥ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ - [Money] of Herod the King. Tripod with lebes standing on podium; in left field, date: ΛΓ (year 3, 40 B.C.E.); in right field, monogram of Herod: Φ ; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 37. Mesh ² 1. Choice very fine

400-600

The obverse representation has been variously described as a helmet (as used on the 4 prutot of Herod and earlier as a type on the very rare double prutah of Hyrcanus II, see lot 11), or a thymiaterion. It seems, however, much more congruous with the depiction to visualize a helmet.

Herod the Great, 40 (37)-4 B.C.E.



21 8 Prutot (Bronze 24mm, 6.75g /). Minted at Samaria, dated year 3 (40 B.C.E.).

Obverse. Helmet with cheek pieces, star on top, flanked by two palm branches; border of dots.

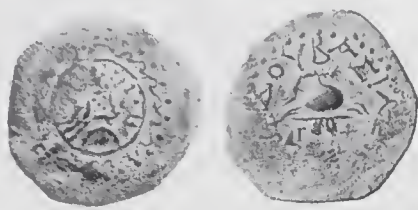
Reverse. HPΩΔΟΥ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ - [Money] of Herod the King. Tripod with lebes standing on podium; in left field, date: ΛΓ (year 3, 40 B.C.E.); in right field, monogram of Herod: Φ ; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 37. Mesh ² 1. Choice very fine

400-600


With numismatic evidence, as well as with various passages in the Talmud, Y. Meshorer in his most valuable work, *Ancient Jewish Coinage*, has established the relationship of the various Herodian bronzes, in addition to their ancient names. This, the largest sized piece, was termed a hadris, which was equivalent to eight prutot (for a single prutah see lot 24).

Herod the Great, 40 (37)-4 B.C.E.



22 4 Prutot (Bronze 20mm, 4.32g; axis indeterminate). Minted at Samaria, dated year 3 (40 B.C.E.).

Obverse. Shield with decorated rim; border of dots.

Reverse. ΗΡΩΔΟΥ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ - [Money] of Herod the King. Crested helmet with cheek pieces; in left field, below, date: ΛΓ (year 3, 40 B.C.E.); in right field, below, monogram of Herod: ; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 38. Mesh ² 2a. Choice very fine

400-500

This, the hanzin, was equal to four prutot; it would take sixteen of these coins to be worth one Roman silver denarius.

Herod the Great, 40 (37)-4 B.C.E.



23 2 Prutot (Bronze 17mm, 3.52g /). Minted at Samaria, dated year 3 (40 B.C.E.).

Obverse. Poppy pod on stem with leaves; in field, to left and right, fillet; border of dots.

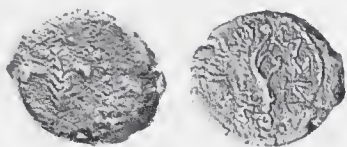
Reverse. ΗΡΩΔΟΥ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ - [Money] of Herod the King. Winged caduceus; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 39 var (no date or monogram present on this variant). Mesh ² 4. About very fine

500-650

On this extremely rare variant of an already rare coin type, there is no date or monogram. This omission occurs only on a few coins of this denomination (the shamin) and of the prutah.

Herod the Great, 40 (37)-4 B.C.E.



24 Prutah (Bronze 16mm, 2.32g \). Minted at Samaria, dated year 3 (40 B.C.E).

Obverse. Palm branch with fillet; border of dots.

Reverse. ΗΡΩΔΟΥ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ - [Money] of Herod the King. Aphlaston; in left field, date: ΙΓ (year 3, 40 B.C.E.); in right field, monogram of Herod: ⚡; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 40. Mesh ² 5. Very fine

500-700

Herod's title "tetrarch" (ΤΕΤΡΑΡΧΗΣ) appears in monogram form in the right field of this coin. The letters T and P (and possibly E, thus utilizing all the first four letters TETP) are joined, reminding the observer that Herod was awarded this title in 42 B.C. by Marc Antony.

The aphlaston, or aplustre, here beautifully represented in curved and ornate form, is the decorative ending of the stern of a ship. It is normally chosen as a symbol for naval victory, and has a parallel in Roman Republican coin issues of roughly this period.

Herod the Great, 40 (37)-4 B.C.E.

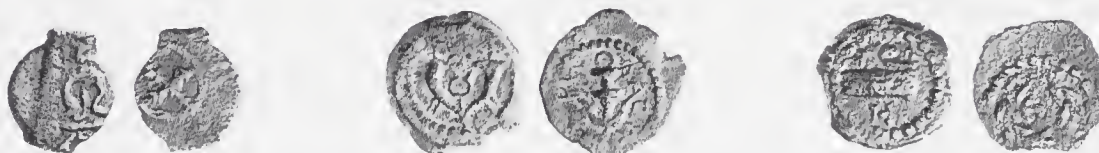


25 Lot of three middle bronzes minted at Jerusalem. Mesh ¹ 41, 41A (two examples); Mesh ² 7 (two examples), 8b. Fine-very fine

300-400

Herod the Great, 40 (37)-4 B.C.E.

Herod Archelaus, 4 B.C.E.-6 C.E.



26 Lot of three small bronzes. Mesh ¹ 46, 53, 58; Mesh ² 14, 17d, 5c (Herod Archelaus). Fine-very fine

100-150

Herod Archelaus, 4 B.C.E.-6 C.E.



27 2 Prutot (Bronze 17mm, 2.60g ↑).

Obverse. HPWΔHC - Herod. Two cornucopias turning to right with bunch of grapes hanging from each horn; border of dots.

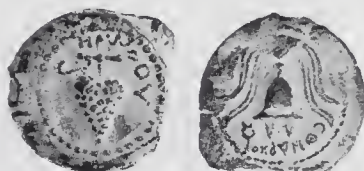
Reverse. EΘN/PA/X - Ethnarch. Galley with ram, prow, aphlaston, oars and rudder, sailing to left; on galley, navigator and cabin; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 59A. Mesh ² 3a. Green patina, nearly extremely fine

500-700

Archelaus was given the title "ethnarch" by Augustus following the death of his father, Herod the Great, in 4 B.C.E. The other two sons of Herod inherited control over the Galilee and Peraea (Antipas), plus Gaulanitis, Trachonitis, Batanaea and Paneas (Philip). There was great jealousy and struggle for power between Archelaus and Antipas. After ten years of ruling the lands of Judaea, Samaria and Idumaea, Archelaus was banished to Gaul and the lands which were formerly ruled by Archelaus were given to the Procurator Coponius to administer.

Herod Archelaus, 4 B.C.E.-6 C.E.



28 Small Bronze (17mm, 3.18g →).

Obverse. HPWΔOY - [Money] of Herod. Vine branch with bunch of grapes; border of dots.

Reverse. EΘNAPXO - Ethnarch. Crested helmet with two cheek pieces; in lower left field, caduceus; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 61. Mesh ² 6b (*this coin*). Exceptional for issue, nearly extremely fine

200-250

Herod Antipas, 4 B.C.E.-39 C.E.



29 Medium Bronze (15mm, 4.05g \searrow). Minted probably at Tiberias, dated year 24 (20 C.E.).

Obverse. HPWΔOY TETPAPXOY - [Money] of Herod the Tetrarch. Upright reed; date in field: LKΔ (year 24, 20 C.E.); border of dots.

Reverse. TIBE/PIAC - Tiberias. Wreath; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 64. Mesh ² 3 (*this coin*). Choice very fine

750-900

This coin type most likely commemorates the founding of the city of Tiberias, named by Antipas after the ruling emperor of Rome, Tiberius. His newly-founded capital, Tiberias, was near Lake Gennesaret. The reed, symbol of growth as well as a living plant along a riverbank, was appropriately chosen to represent Tiberias, set in one of the most fertile regions of Galilee.

Herod Antipas, 4 B.C.E.-39 C.E.



30 Large Bronze (23mm, 13.21g \uparrow). Minted probably at Tiberias, dated year 33 (29 C.E.).

Obverse. HPWΔOY TETPAPXOY - [Money] of Herod the Tetrarch. Palm branch; date in field: ΛΑΓ (year 33, 29 C.E.); border of dots.

Reverse. TIBE/PIAC - Tiberias. Wreath; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 67. Mesh ² 5. About very fine

1500-2000

Herod Antipas, 4 B.C.E.-39 C.E.



31 Medium Bronze (18mm, 7.18g ↑). Minted probably at Tiberias, dated year 33 (29 C.E.).

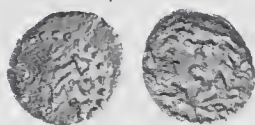
Obverse. HPWΔOY TETPAPXOY - [Money] of Herod the Tetrarch. Palm branch; date in field: ΛΑΓ (year 33, 29 C.E.); border of dots.

Reverse. TIBE/PIAC - Tiberias. Wreath; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 67A. Mesh ² 6. Choice very fine

1000-1500

Herod Antipas, 4 B.C.E.-39 C.E.



32 Small Bronze (12mm, 1.65g ↑). Minted probably at Tiberias, dated year 33 (29 C.E.).

Obverse. HPWΔOY - [Money] of Herod. Palm branch; date in field: ΛΑΓ (year 33, 29 C.E.); border of dots.

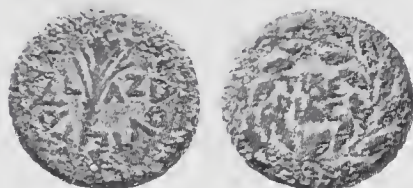
Reverse. T/C - Tiberias. Wreath; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 70. Mesh ² 8 (*these dies*). About very fine

600-800

It is normal for the existing specimens of the bronzes minted by Antipas to exhibit much wear, porosity and corrosion. The metallic content seems to be quite poor, greatly increasing susceptibility of damaging reaction with the acids in the cradling soil. The coinage of Antipas was indeed a local one, seldom used and hardly ever unearthed outside the Galilee and Peraea, the confines of his territory.

Herod Antipas, 4 B.C.E.-39 C.E.



33 Medium Bronze (20mm, 6.21g ↑). Minted probably at Tiberias, dated year 37, 33 C.E.

Obverse. HPΩΔOY TETPAPXOY - [Money] of Herod the Tetrarch. Palm branch; date in field: ΛΑΖ (year 37, 33 C.E.); border of dots.

Reverse. TIBE/PIAC - Tiberias. Wreath; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 72A. Mesh ² 14. Very fine

700-900

Herod Antipas, 4 B.C.E.-39 C.E.



34 Medium Bronze (22.5mm, 12.82g \pm). Minted probably at Tiberias, dated year 43, 39 C.E.

Obverse. HPΩΔΗC TETPAPXH C [Money] of Herod the Tetrarch. Palm tree with seven branches and two clusters of dates; date in field: ΛΜΓ (year 43, 39 C.E.); border of dots.

Reverse. ΓΑΙΩ/ΚΑΙCΑΡΙ/ΓΕΡΜΑ/ΝΙΚΩ – Gaius Caesar Germanicus. Wreath; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 74. Mesh ² 17. Very rare, very good-fine

2500-3000

Herod Philip II, 4 B.C.E.-34 C.E.



35 Medium Bronze (22mm, 9.05g \pm). Minted probably at Paneas, dated year 12, 8/9 C.E.

Obverse. ΚΑΙCΑΡΙ CΒΑCΤΩ - Caesar Augustus. Laureate head right of Augustus; border of dots.

Reverse. ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ ΤΕΤΡΑΡΧΟΥ- [Money] of Philip the Tetrarch. Façade of tetrastyle temple; date between columns: ΛΙΒ (year 12, 8/9 C.E.); border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 78. Mesh ² 3. Fine-very fine

1500-2000

The temple represented on the reverse of the bronzes of Philip is the one built at Paneas by Herod the Great dedicated to the emperor Augustus. Indeed, the city of Paneas itself, Philip's capital, was later dedicated to Augustus using his title Caesar, thus Caesarea Paneas (or sometimes, Caesarea Philippi, in honor of Herod Philip II).

Herod Philip II, 4 B.C.E.-34 C.E.



36 Medium Bronze (21mm, 5.37g \uparrow). Minted probably at Paneas, dated year 16, 12/3 C.E.

Obverse. ΚΑΙΣΑΡΙ ΣΕΒΑΣΤ- Caesar Augustus. Laureate head right of Augustus, countermarked (Greek letter Φ within incuse circle) on neck; border of dots.

Reverse. ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ ΤΕΤΡΑΡΧΟΥ - [Money] of Philip the Tetrarch. Façade of tetrastyle temple; date between columns: ΛΙΣ (year 16, 12/3 C.E.); border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 79 var (described coin, Mesh ¹ 79, has no countermark). Mesh ² 5a (*this coin*). About very fine
1200-1600

Ex NFA III, lot 53.

Herod Philip II, 4 B.C.E.-34 C.E.



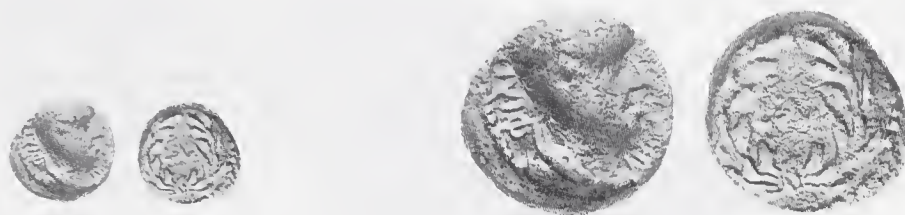
37 Medium Bronze (20mm, 6.30g \uparrow). Minted probably at Paneas, dated year 34, 30/1 C.E.

Obverse. ΤΙΒΕΡΙΟΥ ΣΕΒΑΣΤΟΥ ΚΑΙΣΑΡ - Tiberius Augustus Caesar. Head right of Tiberius; laurel branch to right; border of dots.

Reverse. ΕΠΙ ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ ΤΕΤΡΑΡΧΟΥ ΚΤΙΣ - In the time of Philip the Tetrarch, founder. Façade of tetrastyle temple; date between columns: ΛΛΔ (year 34, 30/1 C.E.); border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 83. Mesh ² 11. Rare, very fine/nearly extremely fine
2000-2500

Herod Philip II, 4 B.C.E.-34 C.E.



38 Small Bronze (11mm, 1.61g ↑). Minted perhaps at Paneas, dated year 34, 30/1 C.E.

Obverse. ΦΙΛ ΙΠ [ΠΟΥ] - [Money] of Philip. Draped and bareheaded bust right of Philip; border of dots.

Reverse. Date within wreath: ΛΛΔ (year 34, 30/1 C.E.); border of dots.

Mesh ¹ unlisted. Mesh ² 12 (*this coin*). A great rarity with an excellent portrait, very fine 12,500-17,500

The different fabric, style of portraiture, as well as size of this type could possibly indicate a mint other than Paneas.

Herod Philip II, 4 B.C.E.-34 C.E.



39 Medium Bronze (18.5mm, 5.91g ↑). Minted probably at Paneas, dated year 37, 33/4 C.E.

Obverse. ΤΙΒΕΡΙΟΥ ΣΕΒΑΣΤΟΥ ΚΑΙΣΑΡ - Tiberius Augustus Caesar. Bare head right of Tiberius; laurel branch to right; border of dots.

Reverse. ΕΠΙ ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ ΤΕΤΡΑΡΧΟΥ - In the time of Philip, the Tetrarch. Façade of tetrastyle temple; date between columns: ΛΑΖ (year 37, 33/4 C.E.); border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 84. Mesh ² 14. Choice very fine/fine 1500-2000

Herod Philip was the first Jewish ruler to place his portrait on coinage (the premier issues minted during year 5 of the reign, 1/2 C.E.). Educated in Rome, Philip was the uncle and first husband of Salome, of terpsichorean fame. It was she, later of the ruling house of Chalcis, who caused the beheading of John the Baptist. This present coin is of the last type to be struck by Philip, who died without heirs.

Herod Agrippa I, 37-44 C.E.



40 Medium Bronze (20mm, 10.20g ↑). Minted at Paneas, dated year 2, 38 C.E.

Obverse. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ ΑΓΡΙΠΠΑΣ - King Agrippa. Laureate head right of Agrippa; border of dots.

Reverse. ΑΓΡΙΠΠΑΥΙΟ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ - [Money] of Agrippa the King. Agrippa II, as a youth wearing chlamys, riding on horseback right; date in field: LB (year 2, 38 C.E.); border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 85. Mesh ² 1 (*this coin*). Very rare and possessing a bold portrait; choice very fine 10,000-15,000

Herod Agrippa I, 37-44 C.E.



41 Medium Bronze (20.5mm, 8.56g ↑). Minted at Caesarea, dated year 7, 43 C.E.

Obverse. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ ΜΕΓΑΣ ΑΓΡΙΠΠΑΣ ΦΙΛΟΚΑΙ - The great king, Agrippa, the friend of the emperor. Draped and diademed bust right of Agrippa I; border of dots.

Reverse. ΚΑΙΣΑΡΙΑ Η ΠΡΟΣ ΤΩ ΣΕΒΑΣΤΩ ΛΙΜΗΝΙ - Caesarea, which is near the harbor called Sebastos. The Tyche of Caesarea standing to left, holding palm branch in left hand, resting right hand on rudder; date in field: LZ (year 7, 43 C.E.); border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 90. Mesh ² 6p (*this coin*). Very rare; wonderfully bold and expressive portrait of Agrippa. Very fine/extremely fine 15,000-20,000

Herod Agrippa I, 37-44 C.E.



42 Large Bronze (25mm, 16.11g ↑). Minted at Caesarea, dated year 7, 43 C.E.

Obverse. ΤΙΒΕΡΙΟΥ ΚΑΙΣΑΡ ΣΕΒΑΣΤΟΥ ΓΕΡΜ - Tiberius Caesar Augustus Germanicus. Laureate head right of Claudius, countermarked (laureate male head left within incuse oval) on neck; border of dots.

Reverse. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ ΜΕΓΑΣ ΑΓΡΙΠΠΑΣ ΦΙΛΟΚΑΙΣΑΡ - The great king, Agrippa, the friend of the emperor. Façade of distyle temple with two figures facing holding circular objects (possibly pateras); a third figure (or statue) is at center, holding longer, cylindrical object (possibly a crown); date within pediment: LZ (year 7, 43 C.E.); border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 89. Mesh ² 8a. Very rare, fine

3000-4000

Herod Agrippa I, 37-44 C.E.



43 Lot of three prutot. Mesh ¹ 88; Mesh ² 11, 11a (*this coin*), 11i (*this coin*). Fine

100-150

This is the only coin type minted at Jerusalem by Agrippa I.

Herod Agrippa II, 56 [50]-96 [100] C.E.



44 Large Bronze (22mm, 12.32g ↑). Dated year 5, 61 C.E.

Obverse. ΝΕΡΩΝ ΚΑΙΣΑΡ ΣΕΒΑΣΤΟΥ (beginning with the coinage of Agrippa II, including the Roman proper issues, a translation of the Greek and Latin legends will be forgone). Laureate head right of Nero; in lower right field, lituus; border of dots.

Reverse. ΕΠΙ/ΒΑΣΙΛΕ/ΑΓΡΙΠΠ/ΝΕΡΩ/ΝΙΕ. Wreath; date is the last letter of the inscription [E, (year) 5, 61 C.E.]; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 95. Mesh ² 1. Well defined, choice very fine

1500-2000

The reverse proclaims the renaming of Caesarea Paneas to Neronias, in honor of the then current Roman emperor Nero. It was then so dedicated by Agrippa II, and this coinage, of which there were issued three different modules of bronzes, most probably commemorates that event.

Herod Agrippa II, 56 [50]-96 [100] C.E.



45 Medium Bronze (17mm, 4.29g \searrow). Dated year 10, 66 C.E.

Obverse. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΑΓΡΙΠΠΟΥ. Draped bust left of Agrippa II (now believed to be Agrippa I, see note below); border of dots.

Reverse. Anchor; date in field: LI (year 10, 66 C.E.); border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 98. Mesh ² 4 (*this coin*). Excellent portrait on this finest specimen of the four examples known, very fine
10,000-13,000

Traditional attribution places this coin under Agrippa II. However, the opinion of R. Deutsch, *INJ* 9 (1986-7), pp. 36-7, that here the head of Agrippa I is depicted, has been generally accepted, see D. Barag, *Survey* 1991, p. 106; M. Amandrig, *ibid.*, p. 174.

Herod Agrippa II, 56 [50]-96 [100] C.E.



46 Large Bronze (27mm, 12.76g \uparrow). Dated year 14, 74/5 C.E.

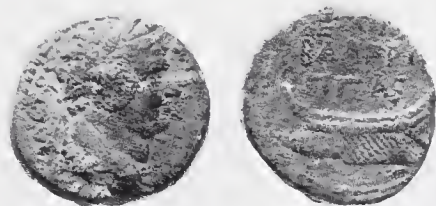
Obverse. AVTOKP TITOC KAICAP CEBAC. Cuirassed, draped and laureate bust right of Titus; border of dots.

Reverse. ΕΤ ΙΔΒΑ/ΑΓΡΙ ΠΠΑ, Nike advancing right holding wreath in right hand, palm branch over shoulder; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ unlisted. Mesh ² 9 (*this coin*). Very rare, choice very fine
2500-3000

For a period Titus lived openly in Rome with his beloved Berenice, sister of Agrippa II. Titus had met Berenice in Judaea; she was ten years his senior, beautiful, wealthy and worldly. The gossip in Rome was that Berenice was "the second Cleopatra," and because of the wave of criticism brought on by her presence, she was sent on her way.

Herod Agrippa II, 56 [50]-96 [100] C.E.



47 Medium Bronze (21mm, 6.90g $\frac{1}{2}$). Dated year 19, 79/80 C.E.

Obverse. ΑΥΤΟΚ ΤΙΤΟC ΚΑΙ [CΑΡ CΕΒΑCΤΟC]. Laureate head right of Titus; border of dots.

Reverse. ΕΤΟ ΙΘ/ΒΑΑΓΡΙ/ΠΙΠΑ. Galley sailing left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 118. Mesh ² 18. Very rare, very fine

4000-5000

The coinage of Agrippa II is one of the most challenging as well as diverse in the entire coinage of the Holyland. There were two different eras utilized, that of 56 C.E. as year one (lots 44 and 45), and that of 61 C.E. as year one (lots 46 - 55). There are four different Roman emperors portrayed on the coinage of Agrippa II: Nero, Vespasian, Titus and Domitian. During his lengthy reign, there were no less than eight emperors who wielded supreme power in Rome.

Herod Agrippa II, 56 [50]-96 [100] C.E.



48 Small Bronze (16mm, 4.12g $\frac{1}{4}$). Dated year 19, 79/80 C.E.

Obverse. ΔΟΜΙΤΙΑ[ΝΟC ΚΑΙCΑΡ]. Laureate head right of Domitian; border of dots.

Reverse. ΕΤΟ/ΙΘ ΒΑ/ΑΓΡΙΠΙ. Galley sailing left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 124. Mesh ² 20a. Nearly extremely fine

2000-2500

The word in Greek ΕΤΟΥC (often abbreviated ΕΤΟC, ΕΤΟΥ, ΕΤΟ as on this coin, or ΕΤ) means "in the year"; this precedes the date in Greek letters signifying numbers (*alpha*=1, *beta*=2, etc). Occasionally on Herodian coins the letter "L" (actually the *siglum*, itself derived from ancient Egyptian papyri) is used for the same purpose.

Herod Agrippa II, 56 [50]-96 [100] C.E.



49 Medium Bronze (19mm, 10.07g /). Dated year 24, 84/5 C.E.

Obverse. [ΔOME]T KAICAP [ΓΕΡΜΑΝΙ]. Cuirassed, draped and laureate bust right of Domitian; border of dots.

Reverse. ΕΤΟ ΚΔΒΑ[C]/ΑΓΡΙ ΠΠΑ. Nike advancing right holding wreath in right hand, palm branch over shoulder; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 126. Mesh ² 22. Design and many details clear, fine

600-800

Herod Agrippa II, 56 [50]-96 [100] C.E.



50 Medium Bronze (19mm, 5.52g ↑). Dated year 24, 84/5 C.E.

Obverse. ΔOMET KAIC ΓΕΡΜΑ. Laureate head right of Domitian; border of dots.

Reverse. ΕΤΟ ΚΔ ΒΑ ΑΓΡΙΠΠ. Nike standing to right inscribing shield which rests on her left knee; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 128. Mesh ² 24. Choice very fine

300-400

On most examples of this type, detailed engraving of the dies is sadly missing. This is a pleasant exception, as even the strokes of Nike's stylus are visible on her shield.

Herod Agrippa II, 56 [50]-96 [100] C.E.



51 Large Bronze (27.5mm, 10.23g ±). Dated year 25, 85/6 C.E.

Obverse. IMP CAES DIVI VESP F DOMITIAN AVG GER COS X. Laureate bust right of Domitian wearing aegis; border of dots.

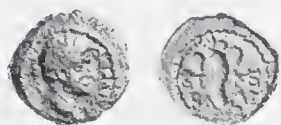
Reverse. MONETA EPI BA AΓPI [AVGVST]. Moneta standing to left, holding cornucopia in her left hand, balance scales in right hand; in field: ET KE/SC (year 25, 85/6 C.E; *Senatus Consulto*); border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 140. Mesh ² 25. Some porosity, otherwise about very fine

1000-1500

This coin type was the first to employ Latin legends (although the name and title of the king is in Greek) on any Jewish emission. It is closely patterned from an as of Domitian, minted in prolific numbers at Rome. Symbolizing the right of coinage and control of the mint, the personification of Moneta here alludes to the power of the emperor (and the Roman Senate, as it was the Senate that controlled copper alloy coinage) to give wealth to the people of the Roman Empire (here symbolized by the cornucopia), as well as equalization and standardization of the coinage itself.

Herod Agrippa II, 56 [50]-96 [100] C.E.



52 Small Bronze (12.5mm, 1.75g ±). Dated year 25, 85/6 C.E.

Obverse. ΔOMET KAI[C ΓEPM]. Laureate head right of Domitian; border of dots.

Reverse. ET KE/BAAG. Single cornucopia; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 131. Mesh ² 29 (*this coin*). Choice very fine

450-550

Herod Agrippa II, 56 [50]-96 [100] C.E.



53 Large Bronze (27mm, 13.69g ↑). Dated year 26, 86/7 C.E.

Obverse. ΑΥΤΟΚΡΑ ΟΥΕΣΠΑCΙ ΚΑΙCΑΡΙ CΕΒΑCΤΩ. Laureate head right of Vespasian; border of dots.

Reverse. ΕΤΟΥ ΚCΒΑ/ΑΓΡΙ ΠΠΑ. Turreted Tyche standing to left, holding cornucopia in left hand, corn ears in right hand; above, in left field, crescent; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 105 var (no crescent). Mesh ² 30a (*this coin*). Very fine

800-1000

Ex Sotheby 21 X 71, lot 32.

Herod Agrippa II, 56 [50]-96 [100] C.E.



54 Medium Bronze (19.5mm, 4.52g ↓). Dated year 26, 86/7 C.E.

Obverse. IM CA D VES F DOM AV GER [COS XII]. Laureate bust right of Domitian wearing aegis; border of dots.

Reverse. [ΕΠ]Ι ΒΑ ΑΓΡ. Crossed double cornucopia; between horns, winged caduceus; in field: [E]T KS/SC (year 26, 86/7 C.E.; *Senatus Consulto*); border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 143. Mesh ² 35. Excellent detail, choice very fine

600-1000

Agrippa was initially presented with the kingdom of Chalcis; later, Rome exchanged it for other lands, making his territorial claims considerable. While there was continued strife between Herod Agrippa II and the priests of Jerusalem, he assumed the position of the Romans, before and during the Jewish War, advising, according to Josephus, the Jews to re-evaluate their position. Agrippa barely escaped when the war began; he died childless as did Philip II, thus ending the Herodian dynasty.

Herod Agrippa II, 56 [50]-96 [100] C.E.



55 Small Bronze (13.5mm, 1.77g ±). Dated year 35, 95/6 C.E.

Obverse. AVTO ΔOMIT. Laureate head right of Domitian; border of dots.

Reverse. BA AΓP/ET EA Wreath; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 147. Mesh ² 56. About very fine

400-600

THE JEWISH WAR



56 Shekel (Silver, 13.34g ±). Prototype issue, dated year One, 66 C.E.

Obverse. Ⲡⲉⲓⲛⲓⲣⲉⲗ ⲛⲉⲕⲉⲗ - ṢQL YŚR'L - Shekel of Israel. Temple vessel with pearl on either side, surrounded by border of dots; above, date: ⲉ - A(leph) - (Year) 1; border of dots.

Reverse. ⲉⲣⲟⲩⲥⲗⲙ ⲓⲕⲟⲩⲥⲁ - [Ⲡⲉⲓⲛⲓⲣⲉⲗ]ⲛⲉⲕⲉⲗ - YRUŠLM QDŠH - Jerusalem is Holy. Stem with three pomegranate fruits surrounded by border of dots; all within border of dots.

Mesh ¹ unlisted. Mesh ² 1 (*these dies*). Of the greatest importance and rarity; the second known specimen.

150,000-200,000

Struck during the late summer/early fall of 66 C.E. shortly after the war began, this prototype or pattern shekel is the first coin type of the Jewish War. The prompting of the issuance of coinage was one well established in the ancient world; to coin money was to have power, in this case to proclaim their own power - independence. The prototype, the newly designed declaration of war and of freedom, differs from the regular year One issues in having an inner row of dots encircling the representation of obverse and reverse, in the point at which the identical inscriptions begin (at upper left on the pattern emission), and in the formation of the letters, most notably the *mem* and the *shin*.

This experimental issue, of which only two exist, was not known until 1970 when the other example, now permanently housed in the Israel Museum, was discovered. Scholars were in disbelief of its validity, as it was indeed so significantly different from the regular year One shekels. After subjection to elaborate testings, the experimental issue is now unconditionally accepted as being one, if not *the* most significant rarity in the entire Jewish series.



57 Shekel (Silver, 14.16g /). Dated year One, 66 C.E.

Obverse. לְפָנַי לְפָנַי - ŠQL YŠR'L - Shekel of Israel. Temple vessel with pearl on either side; above, date: פ'-A(leph) - (Year) 1; border of dots.

Reverse. יְרוּשָׁלַיִם קְדֻשָּׁה - YRUŠLM QDŠH - Jerusalem is Holy. Stem with three pomegranate fruits; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 148. Mesh ² 2a (*this coin*). Nearly extremely fine

3000-4000

The very statements and charisma of the Jewish War emissions, especially of the silver shekels, contribute to one of the most aesthetically pleasing as well as historically enthralling coinages of the ancient world. By the simplicity and symbolism of the coin types, as well as their thick fabric and bold striking, the shekels proudly proclaim the short-lived freedom of the Jews during the *Bellum Judaicum*. Issued as a continuation of the shekels of Tyre, the Jewish shekels were struck and dated years one through five.



58 Shekel (Silver, 13.75g /). Dated year One, 66 C.E

Obverse. לְפָנַי לְפָנַי - ŠQL YŠR'L - Shekel of Israel. Temple vessel with pearl on either side; above, date: פ'-A(leph) - (Year) 1; border of dots.

Reverse. יְרוּשָׁלַיִם קְדֻשָּׁה - YRUŠLM QDŠH - Jerusalem is Holy. Stem with three pomegranate fruits; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 148. Mesh ² 3 (*this coin*). Extremely fine

2500-3500

The formation of the lettering is much finer than on the previous coin; note in particular the *he*, *yod* and *qof*. Also, the chalice is smaller on this variety as is the pomegranate branch. Because of these differences, it is quite possible that this coin was struck late in 66 C.E., whereas our lot 57 was minted earlier in the first year of the war.



59 Shekel (Silver, 13.75g \). Dated year One, 66 C.E.

Obverse. לִפְנֵימֶלֶךְ - שְׁקָל יִשְׂרָאֵל - Shekel of Israel. Temple vessel with pearl on either side; above, date: פ - A(leph) - (Year) 1; border of dots.

Reverse. יְרוּשָׁלַיִם קְדֻשָּׁה - YRUŠLM QDŠH - Jerusalem is Holy. Stem with three pomegranate fruits; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 148. Mesh ² 3. Extremely fine

2500-3500



60 Half Shekel (Silver, 7.07g \). Dated year One, 66 C.E.

Obverse. לִפְנֵימֶלֶךְ - חֲצֵי שְׁקָל - Half a shekel. Temple vessel with pearl on either side; above, date: פ - A(leph) - (Year) 1; border of dots.

Reverse. יְרוּשָׁלַיִם קְדֻשָּׁה - YRUŠLM QDŠH - Jerusalem is Holy. Stem with three pomegranate fruits; border of dots.

Cf. Mesh ¹ 149. Mesh ² 5 var [this of larger diameter, probably struck from shekel dies]. Dark "hoard" patina, choice very fine

4000-5000

The size of this planchet is most unusual; normally half shekels are smaller in diameter and correspondingly thicker, with the distances between obverse as well as reverse borders (dots to dots) being about 16mm. This coin exhibits spacing of 19mm, which is more comparable to the full-sized shekels (19 - 21mm, see lots 57 - 59). In addition, the size of the representations as well as the lettering are more nearly equated with those of the shekels. Hence, it seems quite possible that this half shekel was struck from full shekel dies, accounting for its extraordinary size of flan.



61 Half Shekel (Silver, 6.75g \sim). Dated year One, 66 C.E.

Obverse. $\text{ל} \text{פ} \text{ו} \text{ע} \text{ל} \text{מ} \text{ז} \text{ב} \text{ח} - \text{ח} \text{ש} \text{ל} \text{ק} \text{ל} - \text{Half a shekel. Temple vessel with pearl on either side; above, date: } \text{א} - \text{A(leph)}$
- (Year) 1; border of dots.

Reverse. $\text{י} \text{ר} \text{ו} \text{ש} \text{ל} \text{מ} \text{ק} \text{ד} \text{ש} \text{ה} - \text{YRU} \check{\text{S}} \text{LM QD} \check{\text{S}} \text{H} - \text{Jerusalem is Holy. Stem with three pomegranate fruits; border of dots.}$

Mesh ¹ 149. Mesh ² 6 (*this coin*). Attractively toned, choice very fine

3000-4000

A possible link exists between the obverse representation of the shekels (and their divisions) and the reverse; it is said that a specially chosen branch with three pomegranate fruits was used to measure the inside bowl of the omer cup. In the Temple, the omer cup was a golden vessel used to measure an omer, a unit of dry weight. The cup was offered in the service on the second day of Passover. There is a theory that indeed the omer cup is shown on the Jewish War shekels and their divisions.



62 Quarter Shekel (Silver, 3.13g \sim). Dated year One, 66 C.E.

Obverse. $\text{ל} [\text{פ}] \text{ו} \text{ע} \text{ל} \text{מ} \text{ז} \text{ב} \text{ח} - \text{ר} \text{ב} \text{ח} \text{ש} \text{ל} \text{ק} \text{ל} - \text{Quarter of a shekel. Temple vessel with pearl on either side; above, date: } \text{א} - \text{A(leph)}$
- (Year) 1; border of dots.

Reverse. $\text{י} \text{ר} \text{ו} \text{ש} \text{ל} \text{מ} \text{ק} \text{ד} \text{ש} \text{ה} - \text{YRU} \check{\text{S}} \text{LM QD} \check{\text{S}} \text{H} - \text{Jerusalem is Holy. Stem with three pomegranate fruits; border of dots.}$

Mesh ¹ 150 (*these dies*). Mesh ² 7 (*these dies*). The second and finest known example, one of the most significant of all Judaeen rarities; choice very fine

100,000-150,000

There are only three quarter shekels of the Jewish War known, two of year One (this specimen and the one in the Israel Museum) and the unique example of year 4 (reposing in The British Museum). The quarter shekel equaled a basic coin denomination in commerce, the Roman silver denarius.

Originally, the term *shekel* was a standard of weight, equal to 1/60th of a mina (1/50th of a light mina). Of Babylonian origin, the word *mina* was later used as an equivalent to any large sum of money, much like talent or million is often used today.



63 Shekel (Silver, 14.26g ±). Dated year 2, 67 C.E.

Obverse. לְפָנַי לְפָנַי - שְׁקֶל יִשְׂרָאֵל - Shekel of Israel. Temple vessel with rim decorated with nine pearls; above, date: י 2 - Y(ear) 2; border of dots.

Reverse. יְרוּשָׁלַיִם הַקְּדוּשָׁה - YRUŠLYM HQDUŠH - Jerusalem the Holy. Stem with three pomegranate fruits; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 151. Mesh ² 8 (*this coin*). Minor area of encrustation, extremely fine

2000-2500



64 Shekel (Silver, 13.87g ±). Dated year 2, 67 C.E.

Obverse. לְפָנַי לְפָנַי - שְׁקֶל יִשְׂרָאֵל - Shekel of Israel. Temple vessel with rim decorated with nine pearls; above, date: י 2 - Y(ear) 2; border of dots.

Reverse. יְרוּשָׁלַיִם הַקְּדוּשָׁה - YRUŠLYM HQDUŠH - Jerusalem the Holy. Stem with three pomegranate fruits; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 151. Mesh ² 8. Very fine

1500-2000



65 Half Shekel (Silver, 6.65g ±). Dated year 2, 67 C.E.

Obverse. לְפָנַי לְפָנַי - חֶסֶךְ שְׁקֶל - Half a shekel. Temple vessel with rim decorated with seven pearls; above, date: י 2 - Y(ear) 2; border of dots.

Reverse. יְרוּשָׁלַיִם הַקְּדוּשָׁה - YRUŠLYM HQDUŠH - Jerusalem the Holy. Stem with three pomegranate fruits; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 152. Mesh ² 10. Light scratches, otherwise very fine

1500-2000

Before the Jewish War, Tyrian shekels, half and quarter shekels were, because of their metallic purity and consistent weight, the only acceptable coins at the Temple of Jerusalem for payment of the temple tax. During the war, shekels were the main denomination, although half shekels as well as a very limited issue of the quarter shekels (see lot 62) were also produced. The half shekels of both Tyre and of the Jewish War are scarcer than the unit denominations; this is especially true of the Tyrian fractions.



66 Lot of six prutot. Mesh ¹ 153 (five examples), 153B; Mesh ² 11a (two examples), 12, 13, 13a, 13b variant. Fine-very fine 200-250



67 Bronze Half Prutah (?) (13mm, 1.05g ~). Dated year 2, 67 C.E.

Obverse. שָׁנָה שְׁנִיָּה - ŠNT ŠTYM - Year two. Amphora with wide rim and two handles; border of dots.

Reverse. חֵירוּת צִיּוֹן - HRT ŠYWN - Freedom of Zion. Vine leaf; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ unlisted. Mesh ² 14 (*this coin*). Nearly extremely fine

1500-2000

This unique and important coin could well be a half prutah or lepton, as epigraphically and artistically it is very similar to the normal Jerusalem issues of prutot, weighing, on the average, a little more than double this specimen. It seems definitely not to be part of the small bronze coins ("minimae") struck at Caesarea which, while utilizing these and other types, are much cruder in fabric and execution.



68 Shekel (Silver, 14.25g ~). Dated year 3, 68 C.E.

Obverse. שֶׁקֶל יִשְׂרָאֵל - ŠQL YŠR'L - Shekel of Israel. Temple vessel with rim decorated with nine pearls; above, date: ג' - Y(ear) 3; border of dots.

Reverse. יְרוּשָׁלַיִם הַקְּדוּשָׁה - YRUŠLYM HQDUŠH - Jerusalem the Holy. Stem with three pomegranate fruits; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 154. Mesh ² 18. Extremely fine

1500-2000



69 Shekel (Silver, 14.10g \uparrow). Dated year 3, 68 C.E.

Obverse. $\text{לפנמלךלפנמלך} - \text{שקל ישראל}$ - Shekel of Israel. Temple vessel with rim decorated with nine pearls; above, date: ג W - Y(ear) 3; border of dots.

Reverse. $\text{ירושלם הקדוש} - \text{ישראל}$ - YRUŠLYM HQDUŠH - Jerusalem the Holy. Stem with three pomegranate fruits; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 154. Mesh ² 18a (*this coin*). A wonderful example, extremely fine 1500-2000

It is interesting to note that the series of shekels, as well as the bronzes of year 4, were formerly attributed to a much earlier time of minting, that of Simon Maccabaeus. In the guide by Rogers (1914) both issues are so listed; in the 1947 edition of the Reifenberg reference the bronzes are still placed under Simon Maccabaeus, but the silver shekels and their fractions are correctly identified as being struck during the Jewish War.



70 Shekel (Silver, 14.23g \searrow). Dated year 3, 68 C.E.

Obverse. $\text{לפנמלךלפנמלך} - \text{שקל ישראל}$ - Shekel of Israel. Temple vessel with rim decorated with nine pearls; above, date: ג W - Y(ear) 3; border of dots.

Reverse. $\text{ירושלם הקדוש} - \text{ישראל}$ - YRUŠLYM HQDUŠH - Jerusalem the Holy. Stem with three pomegranate fruits; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 154. Mesh ² 18a. Lightly scuffed on reverse perimeter, otherwise superb 1500-2000



71 Half Shekel (Silver, 6.51g ±). Dated year 3, 68 C.E.

Obverse. $\text{ל}^{\text{י}}\text{W}\Xi\text{ל}^{\text{ז}}\text{ב}$ - $\text{ח}^{\text{ז}}\text{ש}^{\text{ז}}\text{Y}\text{H}\check{\text{S}}\text{Q}\text{L}$ - Half a shekel. Temple vessel with rim decorated with seven pearls; above, date: $\text{ל}^{\text{ז}}\text{W}$ - Y(ear) 3; border of dots.

Reverse. $\text{י}\text{W}\text{ל}^{\text{ז}}\text{ח}^{\text{ז}}\text{ש}^{\text{ז}}\text{Y}\text{H}\check{\text{S}}\text{Q}\text{L}$ - $\text{YRU}\check{\text{S}}\text{LYM}\text{HQDU}\check{\text{S}}\text{H}$ - Jerusalem the Holy. Stem with three pomegranate fruits; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 155. Mesh ² 19a (*this coin*). Choice very fine

1500-2000



72 Shekel (Silver, 14.30g ±). Dated year 4, 69 C.E.

Obverse. $\text{ל}^{\text{ז}}\text{ח}^{\text{ז}}\text{ש}^{\text{ז}}\text{Y}\text{H}\check{\text{S}}\text{Q}\text{L}$ - $\text{Y}\check{\text{S}}\text{Q}\text{L}\text{Y}\check{\text{S}}\text{R}'\text{L}$ - Shekel of Israel. Temple vessel with rim decorated with nine pearls; above, date: $\text{ל}^{\text{ז}}\text{W}$ - Y(ear) 4; border of dots.

Reverse. $\text{י}\text{W}\text{ל}^{\text{ז}}\text{ח}^{\text{ז}}\text{ש}^{\text{ז}}\text{Y}\text{H}\check{\text{S}}\text{Q}\text{L}$ - $\text{YRU}\check{\text{S}}\text{LYM}\text{HQDU}\check{\text{S}}\text{H}$ - Jerusalem the Holy. Stem with three pomegranate fruits; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 158. Mesh ² 23. Very rare, especially in this exceptional state of preservation; superb, nearly mint state

25,000-30,000

In most all technical parameters, the production of coinage of the *Bellum Judaicum* is unlike that used during the Bar Kokhba War. While both proclaim sovereignty and utilize similar representations (the vine leaf, lulav and etrog, palm branch and palm tree with seven branches), the flans for the shekels, for instance, were created from fresh metal or from recasted coins and their edges were individually hammered, most likely to prevent the planchets from cracking. The Bar Kokhba silver coins have straight, angled edges and were *not* hammered, but achieved their appearance by the use of a ring guard containing the flan during the striking process. The hammered edges and thick flans of the Jewish War shekels add even more to their boldness of design and charismatic quality.



73 Large Bronze ("One Half"; 26.5mm, 16.99g /). Dated year 4, 69 C.E.

Obverse. ×לכלל פלפ - LG'LT ŞYWN - For the redemption of Zion. Palm tree with seven branches flanked by two baskets of dates; border of dots.

Reverse. פלפפפפפפפפ - ŠNT 'RB' HŞY - Year four, half. Two lulavs with etrog between; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 161. Mesh ² 27. Medallic flan, choice very fine

7000-9000

The obverse is judged by many cognoscenti (including our collector, Abraham Bromberg) to be the most beautifully composed coin type of the entire ancient Jewish series. This original representation might well have proved the inspiration for the Roman series of Judaea Capta issues (compare the reverses of lots 307, 309 and 310 with the basic palm tree with two smaller flanking entities of this coin). Modern Israeli medals, stamps and coins have utilized this obverse design as well.



74 Large Bronze ("One Half"; 25mm, 15.92g \). Dated year 4, 69 C.E.

Obverse. [×]לכלל פלפ - LG'LT ŞYWN - For the redemption of Zion. Palm tree with seven branches flanked by two baskets of dates; border of dots.

Reverse. פלפפפפפפפפ - ŠNT 'RB' HŞY - Year four, half. Two lulavs with etrog between; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 161. Mesh ² 27a (*these dies*). Warm brown patina, choice very fine

6000-7500



75 Medium Bronze ("One Quarter"; 22mm, 10.04g ↓). Dated year 4, 69 C.E.

Obverse. ×ℓ× 7ℓ 25 24 - LG'LT ŠYWN - For the redemption of Zion. Etrog; border of dots.

Reverse. 0222 0222 ×22 - ŠNT 'RB' RBY' - Year four, quarter. Two lulavs; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 162. Mesh ² 29. Overstruck, perhaps on a Ptolemaic bronze; choice very fine 2000-3000

Note the small concavity on both obverse and reverse; this is normally observed on Ptolemaic bronzes of Egypt, which also exhibit similar characteristics as on the present coin. This possibly indicates that this coin was restruck by the Jews upon a previously minted coin of Ptolemaic times. There are references of coins, especially bronzes, being used in commerce for hundreds of years. In fact, as late as the mid-18th century, Roman bronze coins were circulating alongside modern European bronzes in the Belgian countryside (and most probably in other areas) in a limited manner.

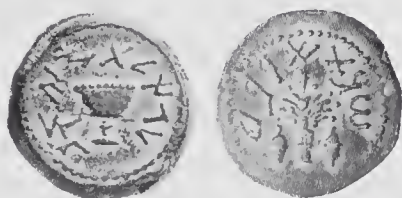


76 Medium Bronze ("One Quarter"; 22.5mm, 8.51g ✓). Dated year 4, 69 C.E.

Obverse. ×ℓ× 7ℓ 25 24 - LG'LT ŠYWN - For the redemption of Zion. Etrog; border of dots.

Reverse. 0222 0222 ×22 - ŠNT 'RB' RBY' - Year four, quarter. Two lulavs; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 162. Mesh ² 29. Choice very fine 2500-3000



77 Small Bronze (One Eighth ?; 19mm, 6.59g ↑). Dated year 4, 69 C.E.

Obverse. 25 24 ×ℓ× 7ℓ - LG'LT ŠYWN - For the redemption of Zion. Temple vessel with rim decorated with nine pearls; border of dots.

Reverse. 0222 ×22 - ŠNT 'RB' - Year four. Two etrogs with lulav between; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 163. Mesh ² 30. Nearly extremely fine 300-400

The casualties of the Jewish War were enormous. When the final remaining wall of Jerusalem was toppled, the militia razed the Holy Temple against the direct orders of Titus, who wished it not to be destroyed.



78 Small Bronze (One Eighth?; 18.5mm, 5.90g ↑). Dated year 4, 69 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤅𐤓𐤁 𐤅𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕 - LG'LT ŠYWN - For the redemption of Zion. Temple vessel with rim decorated with nine pearls; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤐𐤁𐤁 𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕 - ŠNT 'RB' - Year four. Two etrogs with lulav between; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 163. Mesh ² 30a (*this coin*). No patina, nearly extremely fine

200-300

THE BAR KOKHBA WAR

Large Silver



79 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.07g ↑). Dated year One, 132/3 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤅𐤓𐤁 𐤅𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕 - YR WŠ LM - Jerusalem. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤅𐤓𐤁 𐤅𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕 - ŠNT 'HT LG'LT YŠR'L - Year One of the Redemption of Israel. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 165. Mild 3 [21 examples cited, this coin being #5]. Underlying coin visible on reverse (original striking is possibly a tetradrachm of Galba; reverse struck over original obverse). Of great rarity and of utmost importance. Superb; and exceptional example. 40,000-50,000

There are only five die pairs of year One tetradrachms; in the Bar Kokhba corpus, a total of just 39 specimens of all die possibilities are registered.



80 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.74g \searrow). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - YR WŠ LM - Jerusalem. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; border of dots.

Reverse. $\text{שְׁבַע לְחֹרֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל}$ - ŠB LHR YŠR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 178. Mild 7 [eight examples cited, this coin being #6, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Very rare.
Choice very fine 16,000-20,000

The Ark of the Covenant contained the Law, or the two Mosaic tablets of stone. In addition, the Ark bestowed protective power against the enemies of the Children of Israel. There are strong parallels in other art forms showing the Ark in chest form within the Temple, very similar to that which is represented on the coinage.



81 Tetradrachm (Silver, 15.41g \uparrow). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - YR WŠ LM - Jerusalem. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, cross; border of dots.

Reverse. $\text{שְׁבַע לְחֵרְיָאֵל}$ - ŠB LHR YŠR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 179. Mild 12 [two examples cited, this coin being #1, which was chosen to illustrate the dies; this is the finest of the two registered specimens]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Large flan, extremely fine 16,000-20,000

The largest hoard registered in Mildenberg's corpus, the El Fawar hoard, was uncovered in mid-December of 1978, from a site seven kilometers southwest of Hebron. The hoard consisted entirely of Bar Kokhba silver coinage, numbering over 2000 denarii, as well as more than 500 tetradrachms. Uncleaned coins from this find exhibit a grey coloration and a bright, medium green verdigris.



82 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.13g \nearrow). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - YRW ŠLM - Jerusalem. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, cross; border of dots. Die flaw left below balustrade.

Reverse. $\text{שְׁבַע לְחֵרְיָאֵל}$ - ŠB LHR YŠR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 180. Mild 14 [23 examples cited, this coin being #10]. Large flan, superb 8000-10,000

Beginning with Mildenberg 10, the podium at the bottom of the Temple has now been changed to a balustrade (as on this and all succeeding tetradrachms), as the Temple was indeed originally surrounded with walls and balustrades. While this alteration satisfies the need for greater historical detail, it nevertheless fails in giving a three-dimensional feeling to this architectural type.



83 Tetradrachm (Silver, 15.05g /). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - YRW ŠLM - Jerusalem. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, cross; border of dots.

Reverse. שְׁבַע לְחֹרֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל - ŠB LHR YŠR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 180. Mesh ² p. 267, 13 (this coin illustrated). Mild 15 [12 examples cited, this coin being #1]. Ex Beit Mirsim hoard. Extremely fine 8000-10,000

A hoard consisting of about one hundred silver Bar Kokhba coins, as well as numerous Roman and provincial issues, was found at Beit Mirsim, about seventeen kilometers south-southwest of Idna, in December of 1973 and January of 1974. The preponderance of Bar Kokhba coins found in the hoards of this vicinity has led scholars to believe this region, going southwest from Jerusalem to Beersheba, could well have been the stronghold of the rebel forces.



84 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.32g /). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - YRW ŠLM - Jerusalem. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, cross; border of dots.

Reverse. שְׁבַע לְחֹרֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל - ŠB LHR YŠR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 180. Cf. Mesh ² 15. Mild 17 [32 examples cited, this being #23]. Ex Dahariyeh hoard. Lustrous and nearly mint state 4000-5000

Imagine uncovering a hollow stone "strongbox" filled with what was then, as well as now, an immense fortune of 1000 silver denarii and 200 silver tetradrachms! According to accounts, this happened in early September of 1976 in a cave a few kilometers north of the town of Dahariyeh. This coin is one of the many thus found. The coins from the Dahariyeh hoard exhibit, when left uncleaned, a black and dark green coloration.



85 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.77g \pm). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. ירושלים - YRW ŠLM - Jerusalem. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, cross; border of dots.

Reverse. שנת חירות - ŠB LH YŠR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 180. Mild 21 [12 examples cited, this being #5]. Large flan, extremely fine

3500-4500

Note that the first *resh* is omitted on this reverse die (Mildenberg reverse die #14) which was again utilized in a later state on Mildenberg 24 (lot 88 in this catalogue).



86 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.11g \pm). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. ירושלים - YRW ŠLM - Jerusalem. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, cross; border of dots.

Reverse. שנת חירות - ŠB LHR YŠR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 180. Cf. Mesh ² 16a for this reverse die. Mild 22 [11 examples cited, this coin being #8, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex Dahariyeh hoard. Nicely toned, extremely fine

3500-4500



87 Tetradrachm (Silver 14.15g ↑). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - YRW ŠLM - Jerusalem. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, cross; border of dots.

Reverse. שְׁבַע לְחֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל - ŠB LH YŠR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 180. Cf. Mesh ² 13b for this reverse die. Mild 23 [five examples cited, this coin being #2; this is the finest of the five registered specimens]. Ex Dahariyeh hoard. Beautifully toned, superb 4000-5000



88 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.79g /). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - YRW ŠLM - Jerusalem. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, cross; border of dots.

Reverse. שְׁבַע לְחֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל - ŠB LH YŠR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 180. Cf. Mesh ² 13b for this obverse die. Mild 24 [11 examples cited, this coin being #7, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Understriking visible but not attributable on reverse (reverse struck over original obverse). Nearly extremely fine 3500-4500

The first *resh* is omitted on this reverse die (see lot 85 for an earlier die pair).



89 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.38 g). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - YRW ŠLM - Jerusalem. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, cross; border of dots.

Reverse. לְפָנֵינוּ שְׁבַע לְחֵרֵת יִשְׂרָאֵל - ŠB LHR YŠR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 180. Cf. Mesh ² 13b for this obverse die. Mild 26 [three examples cited, this coin being #2]. Ex Beit Mirsim hoard. As the previous lot, remnants of the understriking visible on reverse (reverse struck over original obverse). Nearly extremely fine 3750-4750



90 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.07g). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. לְפָנֵינוּ שְׁבַע לְחֵרֵת יִשְׂרָאֵל - ŠB LHR YŠR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 181. Mesh ² 16a (*these dies*). Mild 28 [23 examples cited, this coin being #8]. Extremely fine 3500-4250

Ex Superior 15 VI 76 (Dowdy Collection), lot 141.

Ex Hess-Leu 36, lot 350.

This coin is struck from Mildenberg obverse die 6, which is the first obverse die to show a beautifully detailed rosette as the central ornament on the Temple entablature. A simple cross preceded this large and finely designed rosette.



91 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.37g ↑). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. שֶׁמֶן שֶׁמֶן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. לִפְנֵימָחָד שְׁבַע לְחֹדֶשׁ - ŠB LHR YŠR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 181. Cf. Mesh ² 16c for this reverse die. Mild 29 [three examples cited, this coin being #2, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Understriking visible but not attributable on obverse (obverse struck over original obverse). Extremely fine 4000-5000



92 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.46g ↑). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. שֶׁמֶן שֶׁמֶן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. לִפְנֵימָחָד שְׁבַע לְחֹדֶשׁ - ŠB LHR YŠR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 181. Mild 30 [This is the sole specimen cited from this die pair, being listed and illustrated as example #1]. Choice very fine 5000-7000

Ex Rarcoa and Superior 31 V 80, lot 2266.

During much of the 19th century, the dated coinage of the Bar Kokhba War was mistakenly attributed to the *Bellum Judaicum*. For instance, in *Geschichte der Jüdischen Münzen* by Dr. M.A. Levy, (Leipzig, 1862), the earliest work on Jewish coins by a Jew, the dated Bar Kokhba coinage of both metals is placed with the amphora bronzes of the Jewish War, as being struck 66 - 70 C.E. This is understandable, as the coin legends of both wars are forcefully proclamatic and all the coins are dated from the incidence of rebellion rather than linking themselves to exterior and pagan Roman events.



93 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.93g ↑). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. שָׁמֹן שְׁמֹן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. שְׁבַל חֵרֶשׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל - ŠB LHR YSR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 181. Mesh ² p. 267, 16 (*this coin illustrated*). Mild 34 [five examples cited, this coin being #2, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Extremely fine 4000-5000

Mildenberg notes on page 135 concerning this obverse die number 8, "The first pieces struck from this die show a heavy die break in the center of the balustrade." Later, as on the following coin, lot 94, the die break was repaired by mint personnel.



94 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.53g ↑). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. שָׁמֹן שְׁמֹן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. שְׁבַל חֵרֶשׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל - ŠB LHR YSR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 181. Mild 36 [11 examples cited, this coin being #1]. Ex Dahariyeh hoard. An exceptionally bold and well-struck coin, superb 4000-5000

Until Hadrian sent his ablest general, Julius Severus, Shim'on bar Kosiba had clearly the advantage, with his guerilla forces scattered in the mountains, plains and deserts and even in subterranean installations. Severus, however, effectively surrounded Kosiba's forces drawing his own men tighter and tighter, until all the fighting Jews were killed or taken as prisoners.



95 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.53g /). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמ׳וֹן - שִׁמ׳וֹן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots. Note that the obverse die break is filled again.

Reverse. שְׁבַע לְחֵרְיִשְׂרָאֵל - שְׁבַע לְחֵרְיִשְׂרָאֵל - ŠB LHR YSR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 181. Cf. Mesh ² 16a for this reverse die. Mild 37 [26 examples cited, this coin being #18, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex Dahariyeh hoard. Toned, extremely fine 3750-4500



96 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.73g /). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמ׳וֹן - שִׁמ׳וֹן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. שְׁבַע לְחֵרְיִשְׂרָאֵל - שְׁבַע לְחֵרְיִשְׂרָאֵל - ŠB LHR YSR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 181. Mild 39 [three examples cited, this coin being #1, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. About extremely fine 4500-5250

Ex Hess-Leu 45, lot 375.



97 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.61g ±). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמ׳וֹן שְׁמֹן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. לְפָנֵינוּ שְׁבִי לְחֵרֵת - ŠB LHR YŠR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 181 (*this obverse die*). Cf. Mesh ² 16a for this reverse die. Mild 41 [seven examples cited, this coin being #2, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Extremely fine 3750-4500



98 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.11g ±). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמ׳וֹן שְׁמֹן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. לְפָנֵינוּ שְׁבִי לְחֵרֵת - ŠB LHR YŠR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 181. Mild 45 [eight examples cited, this coin being #3, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex Dahariyeh hoard. Understriking visible but not attributable on reverse (reverse struck over original obverse). Extremely fine 3500-4250

There is an obverse die break now beginning to occur in a roughly horizontal line across the Temple columns, as Mildenberg mentions on page 141. In lots 102 - 106 it can be observed that the flaw becomes progressively more advanced. It is these flaws which aid specialists in all numismatic areas in arranging the dies chronologically, as well as helping to determine die life and minting procedures.



99 Tetradrachm (Silver, 13.61g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שׁמ׳ון שׁמ׳ון - ŠM ‘WN - Shim’on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵת יִשְׂרָאֵל - LHRWTY RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 199. Mild 46 [three examples cited, this coin being #1, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Very fine
3500-4250

From die evidence it seems likely that the earliest undated coins were struck without significant pause of those dated "Year 2." This coin happens to be struck from the first undated reverse die, although obverse dies 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 were used in both "Year 2" and undated issues.



100 Tetradrachm (Silver, 13.18g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שׁמ׳ון שׁמ׳ון - ŠM ‘WN - Shim’on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵת יִשְׂרָאֵל - LHRWTY RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 199. Mild 47 [This is the sole specimen cited from this die pairing, being listed and illustrated as example #1]. Choice very fine
4250-5750



101 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.02g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵת יִשְׂרָאֵל - LHRWTY RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 199. Mild 49 [three examples cited, this coin being #2 which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Understriking of Melkart-Herakles head visible on obverse (obverse struck over original reverse). Nearly extremely fine 4000-5000



102 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.54g ↑). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵת יִשְׂרָאֵל - LHRWTY RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Lulav thrice bound; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 200. Cf. Mesh ² 54 for this obverse die. Mild 52 [four examples cited, this coin being #2, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex Dahariyeh hoard. Understriking visible on obverse (partial legend and outline of head of Trajan). Nearly extremely fine 4000-5000

The absence of the etrog on the reverse of the undated tetradrachms occurs only on three reverse die pairs: Mildenberg 50, 52 and 58.



103 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.14g \uparrow). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֻת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LHRWTY RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 199. Mesh ² p. 272, 51 (*this coin illustrated*). Mild 53 [six examples cited, this coin being #3, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Toned, extremely fine 4000-5000



104 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.40g \uparrow). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֻת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LHRWTY RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 199. Cf. Mesh ² 51 for this obverse die. Mild 55 [21 examples cited, this coin being #18, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Extremely fine 2250-2750



105 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.05g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵי רִשְׁלָם - LHRWTY RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 199. Cf. Mesh ² 51 for this obverse die. Mild 57 [21 examples cited, this coin being #6]. Understriking visible on both obverse and reverse (original striking is a Syrian tetradrachm of Nero, eagle reverse, Wruck 47; reverse struck over original obverse). Extremely fine 2000-2500



106 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.74g ↑). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵי רִשְׁלָם - LHRWTY RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Lulav thrice bound (no etrog); border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 199. Cf. Mesh ² 51 for this obverse die. Mild 58 [33 examples cited, this coin being #3]. Understriking visible on both obverse and reverse (original striking is a Syrian tetradrachm of Nero, eagle reverse, Wruck 90; obverse struck over original obverse). Choice very fine 2000-2500



107 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.64g ↑). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵתְךָ יִשְׂרָאֵל - LHRWTY RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 199. Cf. Mesh ² 51 for this obverse die. Mild 60 [four examples cited, this coin being #1, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Choice very fine 2750-3500

It cannot be overstated that *every* Bar Kokhba coin was overstruck upon an earlier coin then in circulation, whether of silver or bronze. Main sources were the Syrian provincial coinage for the tetradrachms, the western and eastern imperial coinage for the denarii and the autonomous coins from Gaza and other cities for the Bar Kokhba bronze issues. In the Dead Sea documents the tetradrachm is called *sela*, the denarius *zuz*. It was much more expeditious for the rebels to utilize the already minted currency, for at once they both rid themselves of hated effigies and pagan representations and, more importantly, created coins, communicative to those who held them, carrying images and legends symbolic and close to the hearts of the Jews.



108 Tetradrachm (Silver, 13.91g ↑). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵתְךָ יִשְׂרָאֵל - LHRWTY RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 199. Mild 61 [29 examples cited, this coin being #16, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Choice very fine/extremely fine 2000-2500

Ex Hess-Leu 49, lot 283.



109 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.70g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֻת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LHRWTY RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 199. Mild 63 [25 examples cited, this being #16, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Extremely fine
2250-2750

The two dots placed within the Ark of the Covenant represent the rings into which the sticks to carry the Law were inserted.



110 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.25g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֻת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LHRWTY RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 199. Mild 69 [13 examples cited, this coin being #5]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Extremely fine
2250-2750



111 Tetradrachm (Silver, 13.72g ↑). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵת יִשְׂרָאֵל - LḤRWTY RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 199. Mild 70 [13 examples cited, this coin being #4, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Understriking visible on reverse (probable obverse of a Syrian tetradrachm of Trajan). Nearly extremely fine
2500-3000

The lulav for Sukkoth, the "Feast of Tabernacles," is an arrangement of foliage symbolic of God's sovereignty over nature. It is properly made from two willow sprigs on the left, a closed palm branch in the middle and three branches of myrtle at right. On the coinage, the willow and myrtle are shown as single stalks with diverse sticks bound in the center; predominant is one central palm branch, not yet opened, represented as being quite long. In the Sukkoth holiday celebration, participants would hold the lulav in their right hand and the etrog in their left, while singing and praying. The etrog is a citrus fruit, *citrus medica*.



112 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.26g ↑). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵת יִשְׂרָאֵל - LḤRWTY RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 199. Mild 75 [two examples cited, this coin being #1, which was chosen to illustrate the dies; this is the finest of the two registered specimens]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Extremely fine
3500-4500



113 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.51g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמ׳וֹן שְׁמֹן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵתְךָ יִשְׂרָאֵל - LHRWTY RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 199. Mild 77 [11 examples cited, this coin being #9]. Understriking visible on reverse (obverse of a Syrian tetradrachm of Trajan). Choice very fine 2500-3250



114 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.54g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמ׳וֹן שְׁמֹן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵתְךָ יִשְׂרָאֵל - LHRWTY RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 199. Mild 78 [40 examples cited, this coin being #34]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Understriking visible but not attributable (head of Galba?) on reverse (reverse struck over original obverse). Extremely fine 2250-2750



115 Tetradrachm (Silver, 13.29g \nearrow). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - שִׁמְעוֹן - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵת יִרְשָׁלַיִם - LHRWTY RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 199. Mesh ² 51HU (*these dies*). Mild 79 [95 examples cited, this coin being #94]. Choice very fine 1800-2200

This penultimate specimen of the 95 which are registered, displays only a few diebreaks (and those quite unobtrusive), thus clearly demonstrating the high technical standard of the Jewish mint. The mintmasters overcame the difficulties of overstriking by skillfully hardening the dies and carefully striking the planchets with fixed dies and protecting rings.



116 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.67g \nearrow). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - שִׁמְעוֹן - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵת יִרְשָׁלַיִם - LHRWTY RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 199. Mesh ² 51 (*these dies*). Mild 80 [11 examples cited, this coin being #8, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Extremely fine 2750-3500



117 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.42g ↑). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵת יִרְשָׁלַם - LHRWTY RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 199. Mild 84 [16 examples cited, this coin being #4, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Extremely fine 2750-3500



118 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.07g ↗). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵת יִרְשָׁלַם - LHRWTY RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 199. Mild 85 [30 examples cited, this coin being #12]. Choice very fine 2000-2500

Ex NFA 20 III 75, lot 231.



119 Tetradrachm (Silver, 13.87g \searrow). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. $\text{𐤇𐤊𐤐 𐤑𐤛} - \text{𐤌𐤌 𐤔𐤏𐤎}$ - ŠM ʿWN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; line composed of half circles and horizontal lines above Temple Architrave; border of dots.

Reverse. $\text{𐤌𐤔𐤏𐤎 𐤇𐤊𐤐 𐤑𐤛} - \text{𐤌𐤔𐤏𐤎 𐤇𐤊𐤐 𐤑𐤛}$ - LHRWTY RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 201. Cf. Mesh ² 53b for this reverse die. Mild 88 [seven examples cited, this coin being #4]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Choice very fine 3750-4500

A close comparison of this reverse die execution with that of lot 121 suggests it was engraved by the same celator or engraver.



120 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.06g \uparrow). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. $\text{𐤇𐤊𐤐 𐤑𐤛} - \text{𐤌𐤌 𐤔𐤏𐤎}$ - ŠM ʿWN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; wavy line above Temple Architrave; border of dots.

Reverse. $\text{𐤌𐤔𐤏𐤎 𐤇𐤊𐤐 𐤑𐤛} - \text{𐤌𐤔𐤏𐤎 𐤇𐤊𐤐 𐤑𐤛}$ - LHRWTY RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 201 (*this obverse die*). Cf. Mesh ² 53a for this obverse die. Mild 90 [four examples cited, this coin being #1, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex "Idna" hoard. Extremely fine 4250-4750

Discovered by Bedouins in the summer of 1965, the first "Idna" hoard (near Hebron, where most of the more substantial hoards of Bar Kokhba coinage have been found) provided about 100 silver coins of all three years of the war. Successive discoveries at Idna, especially that of 1970, have contributed to our knowledge of the Prince of Israel and his coinage. It is a relevant fact that till this day not one coin of the Bar Kokhba War has been unearthed in the excavations of the Jewish quarter in Jerusalem.



121 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.68g ↑). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤓𐤕𐤕 𐤕𐤕 - 𐤑𐤌 𐤕𐤎 - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; serpent-like wavy line above Temple Architrave; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕 𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕 - LHRWTY RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 201 (*this obverse die*). Mesh ² 53a (*these dies*). Mild 91 [38 examples cited, this coin being #13]. Extremely fine 3500-4000

The penultimate letter, *lamed*, is omitted on this reverse die by the inexperienced and unskillful engraver.



122 Tetradrachm (Silver, 13.70g ↘). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤓𐤕𐤕 𐤕𐤕 - 𐤑𐤌 𐤕𐤎 - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; serpent-like of wavy line above Temple Architrave; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕 𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕 - LHRWTY RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 201 (*this obverse die*). Mesh ² 53 (*these dies*). Mild 92 [43 examples cited, this coin being #24]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Extremely fine 3500-4000

This reverse die shows the *lamed* closely spaced between the *shin* and *mem*, obviously an afterthought or correction from omission. Comparison of this and Mildenberg 91 (see the previous lot, #121) indicates the possibility that both dies were by the same hand (notice also the similarity in the engraving of the lulav).



123 Tetradrachm (Silver, 14.07g ↑). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤊𐤏𐤍 𐤔𐤓 - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; serpent-like wavy line above Temple Architrave; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤒𐤓𐤕𐤔𐤕 𐤒𐤓𐤕𐤔𐤕 - LHRWTY RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 201 (*this obverse die*). Cf. Mesh ² 53 for this obverse die. Mild 94 [seven examples cited, this coin being #3].
Ex Beit Mirsim hoard. Extremely fine 4000-5000



124 Tetradrachm (Silver, 15.10g \). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤓𐤕𐤕 - 𐤔𐤓𐤕 - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; serpent-like wavy line above Temple Architrave; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤒𐤕𐤕𐤓 𐤕𐤕𐤓𐤕𐤕 - LHRW TY RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 201 (*these dies*). Mesh ² 53 (*these dies*). Mild 95 [20 examples cited, this coin being #1]. Uncleaned, nearly mint state

IRREGULAR COINAGE - Large Silver



125 Tetrachm (Silver, 14.28 ±). Irregular coinage. Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Tetrastyle façade of the Temple of Jerusalem; within the middle of the Temple interior, the Ark of the Covenant in chest form; above, an object meant to be a rosette; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵת יִשְׂרָאֵל - LḤRWTY RWŠLM - for the Freedom of Jerusalem. Lulav thrice bound; to left, etrog; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 199A. Cf. Mesh ² 52 for this reverse die. Mild 103 [this is the sole specimen cited from this die pair, being listed and illustrated as example #1]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Understriking visible but not attributable on reverse (reverse struck over original obverse). Extremely fine 5000-7000

In the corpus, there is a total of 1177 silver tetrachms (dated and undated) enumerated within the 104 die pairs.

SMALL SILVER



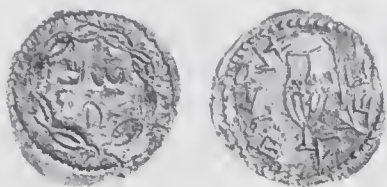
126 Denarius (Silver, 2.71 ±). Dated year One, 132/3 C.E.

Obverse. שְׁנַת חַטָּת לְגִלְתֵּי יִשְׂרָאֵל - ŠNT 'ḤT LG'LT YSR - Year One of the Redemption of Israel. Triform bunch of grapes with vine leaf hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. יְעֶזְקֵאל כֹּהֵן - 'L'ZRH KWHN - Eleazar the Priest. One-handed jug right with palm branch to right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 166 (*these dies*). Cf. Mesh ² 2 for this reverse die. Mild 2 [nine examples cited, this coin being #8, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Very rare and of prime importance to any advanced collection of Bar Kokhba coinage. Nearly extremely fine 25,000-35,000

There are only two die combinations (Mildenberg 1 and 2) which are "pure" Year One issues; a total of only 13 specimens are recorded from both die pairings. The later emissions which use the "Eleazar" reverses are, in reality, hybrids and were struck (and are catalogued) as Year 2 coins.



127 Denarius (Silver, 3.14g \nearrow). Hybrid issue of years One and 2, minted 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. $\text{ו/ו/שׁמ} - \text{שׁמ} - \text{Shim}^{\cdot}$. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties, central dot; border of dots.

Reverse. $\text{לזרח קהנן} - \text{לזרח קהנן} - \text{'L'ZRH KWHN}$ - Eleazar the Priest. One-handed jug right with palm branch to right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 167. Cf. Mesh ² 17a for this obverse die. Mild 4 [six examples cited, this coin being unrecorded]. Uncleaned, virtually mint state 3000-3500

Epigraphically, there is much greater variation within letter formation on the coinage of the Bar Kokhba War in comparison to the *Bellum Judaicum*. This is caused, in the main, by the fact that it is *cursive* Palaeo-Hebrew which is used here, whereas the coinage of the Jewish War utilizes formal Palaeo-Hebrew.



128 Denarius (Silver, 3.49g \nearrow). Hybrid issue of years One and 2, minted 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. $\text{ו/ו/שׁמ} - \text{שׁמ} - \text{Shim}^{\cdot}$. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties, central dot; border of dots.

Reverse. $\text{לזרח קהנן} - \text{לזרח קהנן} - \text{'L'ZRH KWHN}$ - Eleazar the Priest. One-handed jug right with palm branch to right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 167. Mesh ² 18 (*these dies*). Mild 6 [five examples cited, this coin being # 5, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Well-centered on a large flan, extremely fine 3500-4000



129 Denarius (Silver, 3.35g ↓). Hybrid issue of years One and 2, minted 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. 9Ω⊥×ℓℓℓ× ⅈℓ×ⓂΩ - ŠNT 'HT LG'LT YŚR - Year One of the Redemption of Israel. Triform bunch of grapes with vine leaf hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. ℓℓ9Ω ㄥ9ⅈ ℓⓂΩ - ŠB LHR YŚR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Broad chelys-lyre with three strings; on soundbox, four dots and hornlike protrusions left and right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 177 (*this obverse die*). Cf. Mesh ² 19 for this reverse die. Mild 9 [six examples cited, this coin being #2, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex Dahariyeh hoard. Understriking visible on obverse (most probably struck over a denarius of Nerva or Trajan; obverse struck over original obverse). Nearly extremely fine 7000-9000

There are two die pairs of the silver denarii using Mildenberg obverse die 1: Mildenberg 1 and Mildenberg 9 (here represented). Earlier, the die was utilized in the production of the small bronzes (see lots 255-9).



130 Denarius (Silver, 3.22g ↓). Hybrid issue of years One and 2, minted 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. 9Ω⊥×ℓℓℓ× ⅈℓ×ⓂΩ - ŠNT 'HT LG'LT YŚR - Year One of the Redemption of Israel. Triform bunch of grapes with vine leaf hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. ℓℓ9Ω ㄥ9ⅈ ℓⓂΩ - ŠB LHR YŚR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Upright palm branch; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 176 (*these dies*). Mesh ² 20 (*these dies*). Mild 10 [15 examples cited, this coin being #5]. Understriking visible on obverse (obverse struck over original obverse of a provincial drachm, probably of Trajan). Nearly extremely fine 6000-8000

Ex Hess-Leu 45, lot 372.

The study of the original Roman or provincial understriking of the Bar Kokhba coinage is a most important one, shedding light on numerous critical issues. What coins were in circulation before the war? What was the approximate proportion of Roman denarii as against provincial drachms in circulation in the Holyland? Was much of the original coinage booty which the rebel leader seized from the 22nd Legion? Was it levy from the Judaeian population? What can the understriking tell us about the minting procedure?



131 Denarius (Silver, 3.13g ↑). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Reverse. 𐤀𐤕𐤒𐤔 𐤕𐤒𐤔 𐤀𐤕𐤒 - ŠB LHR YŠR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Broad chelys-lyre with three strings; on soundbox, four dots and hornlike protrusions left and right; border of dots.

The round lyre, or chelys-lyre, is a closer representation of what one of the most ancient of musical instruments must have looked like; the heart of the instrument, in its earliest form, was simply a shell, sometimes tortoise, which would reflect and amplify the sound. Supporting the several gut strings would be two upright animal horns and a cross member. Later in the coinage the instrument would become the rectangular kithara-lyre (as in lot 146 and the various following ones). The kithara had developed an actual sounding box with depth, later fashioned from wood and in an advanced stage, complete with sound holes and more sophisticated tuning devices. It seems clear on the coinage that representations of the more technically advanced musical instruments (which indeed had developed centuries before this time) were purposely avoided, most probably to indicate the second century C.E. view of what the instruments (including the trumpet) of the First Temple period resembled.



132 Denarius (Silver, 3.10g ↗). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. օ/./שׁמ - ŠM - Shim'. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties, central dot; border of dots.

Reverse. ל'פ'ג'ו'ל'ג' - ŠB LHR YSR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Upright palm branch; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 184. Mild 14 [two examples cited, this coin being #1, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Toned, extremely fine 4500-6000

This reverse die is the sole one in all the coinage which represents the palm branch as strictly vertical; on all other dies, the palm branch tip sways either left or right (always left on the Year 2 issues, always right on the undated emissions with only one exception. Mildenberg 65).

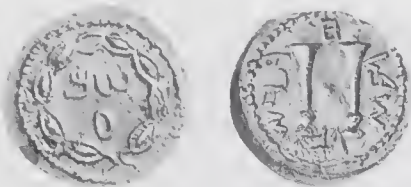


133 Denarius (Silver, 3.20g ↑). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. օ/./שׁמ - ŠM - Shim'. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties, central dot; border of dots.

Reverse ל'פ'ג'ו'ל'ג' - ŠB LHR YSR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Broad chelys-lyre with three strings; on soundbox, four dots and hornlike protrusions left and right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 186. Mesh ² 21a (*this coin*). Mild 15 [six examples cited, this coin being #5]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Extremely fine 2500-3000



134 Denarius (Silver, 2.69g ↑). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. 0/4W - ŠM - Shim'. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties, central dot; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤕𐤕 𐤔𐤕𐤁 𐤁𐤕 𐤕𐤔𐤕 - ŠB LHR YŠ'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Two upright trumpets, central dot; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 182A (*this coin*). Mild 18 [two examples cited, this coin being #1, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. The finest specimen registered, extremely fine 3500-4000

The final *resh* is omitted on this reverse die.



135 Denarius (Silver, 3.60g \nearrow). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. 0/./ㄣㄣ - ŠM ' - Shim'. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties, central dot; border of dots.

Reverse. 9 W 𐤒𐤒 𐤁 𐤋𐤅 W - ŠB LHR YŠR - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Two upright trumpets; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 182. Cf. Mesh ² 26 for this reverse die. Mild 20 [four examples cited, this coin being #3, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Understriking of a Roman provincial drachm visible but not attributable on both obverse and reverse (obverse struck over original obverse). Choice very fine

The final *resh* is now included on the reverse die between the trumpets.



136 Denarius (Silver, 3.51g ↑). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. օ/שׁמ - שׁמ - Shim'. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. 9 W99 184 19W - LHR YSR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Two upright trumpets; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 182 (*these dies*). Mild 24 [11 examples cited, this coin being #6, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Understriking visible on both obverse and reverse (original striking is an Hadrian denarius of 125-128 C.E.; reverse struck over original obverse). Extremely fine . 2000-2500

As noted in the Mildenberg reference, p. 183: "A full inscription seems to have been considered more important than an easily comprehensible one, as the 'alef and lamed are totally out of position, having been added in the one available space on the reverse die." This also reminds us of the precious nature of the dies themselves, as this particular reverse die was strengthened and re-fashioned twice after the original utilization.

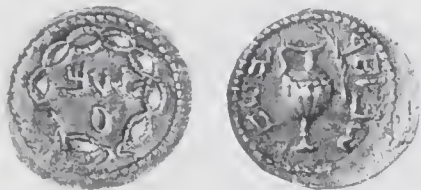


137 Denarius (Silver, 3.24g /). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. օ/שׁמ - שׁמ - Shim'. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. 149W9 89 19W - ŠB LHR YSR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Two upright trumpets, central dot; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 182A (*these dies*). Mesh ² 26a (*these dies*). Mild 25 [13 examples cited, this coin being #6]. Ex Beit Mirsim hoard. Understriking visible but not attributable on obverse (obverse struck over original Flavian obverse, possibly a coin of Domitian). Nearly extremely fine 2500-3000



138 Denarius (Silver, 3.15g ±). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. օ/שׁמ - שׁמ - Shim'. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. ל'פ' ח' - שׁב ל'ח'ר י'ס'ל - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. One-handed jug right with palm branch to right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 183. Cf. Mesh ² 33a for this obverse die. Mild 28 [four examples cited, this coin being #2, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Understriking visible but not attributable on reverse (reverse struck over original obverse of a Roman denarius). Choice very fine 2500-3000



139 Denarius (Silver, 2.96g ±). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. օ/שׁמ - שׁמ - Shim'. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. ל'פ' ח' - שׁב ל'ח'ר י'ס'ל - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. One-handed jug right with palm branch to right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 183 (this obverse die). Cf. Mesh ² 33 for this obverse die. Mild 32 [27 examples cited, this coin being #15, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Nearly extremely fine 1000-1500



140 Denarius (Silver, 3.37g /). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. օ/שׁמ - ŠM - Shim. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. ִלְפָנֶיךָ שְׁבִי לְחֵרֶת יִשְׂרָאֵל - ŠB LHR YŠ'RL - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. One-handed jug right with palm branch to right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 183 (*these dies*). Mesh ² 33a (*these dies*). Mild 34 [25 examples cited, this coin being #16]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Choice very fine 700-1000

On the reverse die *aleph* and *shin* are misplaced.



141 Denarius (Silver, 3.70g /). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. օ/שׁמ - ŠM - Shim. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. ִלְפָנֶיךָ שְׁבִי לְחֵרֶת יִשְׂרָאֵל - ŠB LHR YŠ'RL - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. One-handed jug right with palm branch to right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 183 (*this reverse die*). Mesh ² 33a (*these dies*). Mild 35 [eight examples cited, this coin being #6]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Nearly extremely fine 800-1200

The minting procedure of Bar Kokhba period coinage consisted of first obliterating the original design by hammering flat the coins and sometimes filing the surfaces (normally on the bronzes). The silver coins were then inserted into a metal ring-guard, which prevented their spreading and was thus responsible for imparting a round flan as well as straight edges which appear to be hammered, but unlike the earlier Jewish War shekels, are not. Then the original (and now altered) coin was struck, unheated, between two hinged dies. This is well proven by the die axis as notated in this catalogue; there are no coins of the Bar Kokhba War known with horizontal die axes, only vertically aligned dies (or slightly off in one direction or another from improper glancing blows by the hammer, damaging the hinged die alignment). The 12 o'clock axis was usually chosen (*always* for the tetradrachms) similar to the provincially minted coins of Syria; Roman mint products are usually oriented in the 6 o'clock position.



142 Denarius (Silver, 3.12g ✓). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - שְׁמִי נִשְׁמָה - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with large vine leaf hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְפָנֶיךָ - שְׁבִי לְחֵרֶשׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. One-handed jug right with palm branch to right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 190A. Mild 37 [four examples cited, this coin being #2, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Chipped at edge, otherwise nearly mint state 800-1200

This is the first obverse die of denarii to have the Prince of Israel's name, Shim'on, inscribed in full.



143 Denarius (Silver, 3.00g ↓). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - שְׁמִי נִשְׁמָה - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with small vine leaf hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְפָנֶיךָ - שְׁבִי לְחֵרֶשׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Upright palm branch; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 189 (*this reverse die*). Mild 40 [60 examples cited, this coin being #29, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Extremely fine 700-1000



144 Denarius (Silver, 3.25g \searrow). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. שחן ש"ו - ש"מ ש"נ - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with vine leaf hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. ש"ב ש"נ - ש"ב ש"נ - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Chelys-lyre with three strings; on soundbox, four dots and hornlike protrusions left and right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 188 (*these dies*). Mesh ² 23 (*these dies*). Mild 43 [33 examples cited, this coin being #3, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex Dahariyeh hoard. Toned, superb 1600-2000

There were over four times the number of reverse dies as obverse dies employed in the production of the Bar Kokhba *selaim* (tetradrachms); the ratio was 6:1 with the *susim* (denarii).



145 Denarius (Silver, 3.20g \downarrow). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. שחן ש"ו - ש"מ ש"נ - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with vine leaf hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. ש"ב ש"נ - ש"ב ש"נ - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. One-handed jug right with palm branch to right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 190A (*these dies*). Cf. Mesh ² 36 for this obverse die. Mild 45 [23 examples cited, this coin being #8]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Understriking visible but not fully attributable on obverse (obverse struck over original obverse of a Roman denarius, probably of Vespasian). Extremely fine 800-1000



146 Denarius (Silver, 3.47g ↓). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. ש תׁו שׁו - שׁמ ׳ונו - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with vine leaf hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. ל פׁו ע ׁ בל שׁו - שׁב לׁר יׁס׳ל - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Slender kithara-lyre with three strings; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 187 (*these dies*). Mesh ² 25 (*these dies*). Mild 47 [42 examples cited, this coin being #14, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Understriking visible on both obverse and reverse (original striking is a provincial drachm of Trajan; obverse struck over original obverse). Choice very fine 600-900

This is the first reverse die of the denarii which shows the kithara-lyre, rather than the round or chelys-lyre (as on lot 131).



147 Denarius (Silver, 3.18g ↓). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. ש תׁו שׁו - שׁמ ׳ונו - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with vine leaf hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. ל פׁו ע ׁ בל שׁו - שׁב לׁר יׁס׳ל - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Upright palm branch; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 189 (*this reverse die*). Cf. Mesh ² 31a for this reverse die. Mild 49 [29 examples cited, this coin being #8]. Understriking visible but not attributable on obverse (obverse struck over original obverse). Nearly extremely fine 600-750



148 Denarius (Silver, 3.37g /). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with small vine leaf hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְפָנֵינוּ שְׁבַל חֵרֶשׁ - ŠB LHR YŠ'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Upright palm branch; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 189 (*these dies*). Mesh ² 31b (*this coin illustrated*). Mild 50 [27 examples cited, this coin being #21]. Understriking visible but not attributable on both obverse and reverse (original striking is a provincial drachm). Choice very fine 700-900

Note that beginning with Mildenberg 50, the small vine leaf hangs on the right of the cut branch; formerly it was depicted on the (as on obverse dies numbers 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10).



149 Denarius (Silver, 3.36g ↓). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with vine leaf hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְפָנֵינוּ שְׁבַל חֵרֶשׁ - ŠB LHR YŠ'R'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Kithara-lyre with four strings; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 187. Mesh ² 25a (*these dies*). Mild 51 [four examples cited, this coin being #3]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Understriking visible on both obverse and reverse (original striking is a Roman denarius of Domitian; reverse struck over original obverse). Extremely fine 1200-1600



150 Denarius (Silver, 2.75g ↑). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤇𐤐𐤑 𐤆𐤆 - ŠM N'W - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤠𐤉𐤑𐤍𐤕 𐤒𐤁𐤏𐤕𐤍 - ŠB LHR YŠR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Upright palm branch; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 184. Cf. Mesh ² 35 for this obverse die. Mild 52 [This is the sole specimen cited from this die pair being listed and illustrated as example #1.] Choice very fine/extremely fine 3000-4000

Ex Leu 28, lot 293.

It is possible that this coin is a trial striking, as this obverse legend and another one (on a different but similarly engraved die) have scattered letters in an "X" formation; perhaps these dies were not approved by the minting officials for continued production. The much used obverse die 14 (see lots 151-162 struck from obverse die 14) exhibits Shim'on's name written more clearly and in two distinct lines. Who knows, perhaps Shim'on bar Kosiba himself did not approve of this garbled rendering of his name!



151 Denarius (Silver, 3.45g ↗). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤇𐤐𐤑 𐤆𐤆 - ŠM N'W - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤠𐤉𐤑𐤍𐤕 𐤒𐤁𐤏𐤕𐤍 - ŠB LHR YŠR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Kithara-lyre with four strings; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 185. Cf. Mesh ² 25a for this reverse die. Mild 58 [six examples cited, this coin being #4, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Nearly extremely fine 1000-1300

This obverse die (Mildenberg obverse die 14) was paired with not less than twenty-nine different reverse dies, making it the longest lasting obverse die in the series. There were five year 2 reverse mates used when in a fresh state of preservation; the remaining twenty-four pairs were utilized in the undated series in less fresh state. During this long production, this obverse die remained remarkably unmarred, as the last die pair (Mildenberg 84, see lot 162) reveals. Fully 488 specimens are registered in the Mildenberg corpus as having been struck from this obverse die. In relation to the total number of all Bar Kokhba denarii known at time of publication (3586), this makes nearly one of every seven denarii above the ground fathered by this one obverse die! The tools and the skill of the minting personnel were outstanding and, in our opinion, ostensibly noteworthy in all of ancient numismatics.

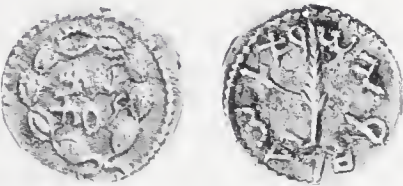


152 Denarius (Silver, 3.57g \nearrow). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤇𐤐𐤑 𐤡𐤡 - ŠM N'W - Shim'on. inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤋𐤉𐤖𐤡 981 3 W - ŠB LHR YŠ'L (the *resh* in "Israel" is omitted) - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Upright palm branch; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 184. Cf. Mesh ² 31b for this reverse die. Mild 59 [19 examples cited, this coin being #15, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Extremely fine 600-800



153 Denarius (Silver, 3.33g \uparrow). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤇𐤐𐤑 𐤡𐤡 - ŠM N'W - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤋𐤉 9W' 981 3 W - ŠB LHR YŠR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Upright palm branch; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 184A (*these dies*). Mesh ² p. 269, 30 (*this coin illustrated*). Mild 60 [20 examples cited, this coin being #8, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Very fine 800-1200

This fascinating reverse die has been the cause for much study; the heavy die break indicates prior use, as does the extensive recutting of the letters (traces of a portion of the original lettering can be seen). Also unusual is that the palm branch tip is placed between the letters *shin* and *resh* because the inscription begins left below, and not right below, as all other regular denarii display. On no other die is this positioning known. As yet, a specimen from the original die state has not been unearthed to better understand this enigmatic coin.



154 Denarius (Silver, 3.35g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤇𐤓𐤕/𐤕𐤁 - 𐤌𐤌𐤍𐤕 - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤕𐤌𐤕𐤁𐤕𐤕𐤌𐤕 - 𐤌𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤌𐤕 - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Upright palm branch; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 204. Mesh ² 62b (*these dies*). Mild 61 [nine examples cited, this coin being #8, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Understriking visible on reverse (original striking is a coin of Vespasian; reverse struck over original obverse). Extremely fine 700-900

This coin was struck from the first registered undated reverse die.



155 Denarius (Silver, 3.34g ↑). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤇𐤓𐤕/𐤕𐤁 - 𐤌𐤌𐤍𐤕 - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤕𐤌𐤕𐤁𐤕𐤕𐤌𐤕 - 𐤌𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤌𐤕 - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Upright palm branch; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 204. Mild 62 [10 examples cited, this coin being #10, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Extremely fine 600-800



156 Denarius (Silver, 3.37g ↑). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤇𐤓𐤕/𐤕𐤁 - 𐤌𐤌𐤍𐤕 - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤕𐤌𐤕𐤁𐤕𐤕𐤌𐤕 - 𐤌𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤌𐤕 - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Upright palm branch; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 204. Mild 64 [13 examples cited, this coin being #5]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Nearly extremely fine 500-700



157 Denarius (Silver, 3.18 /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤇𐤓𐤕/𐤅𐤍 - ŠM N'W - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤅 𐤋𐤍𐤁𐤁 𐤒𐤕 𐤁𐤁𐤌 - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Two upright trumpets, central dot; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 203. Mesh ² 59b (*these dies*). Mild 67 [26 examples cited, this coin being #21]. Ex Beit Mirsim hoard. Understriking visible but not attributable on obverse (obverse struck over original obverse). Extremely fine 400-600



158 Denarius (Silver, 2.30g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤇𐤓𐤕/𐤅𐤍 - ŠM N'W - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤅 𐤋𐤍𐤁𐤁 𐤒𐤕 𐤕𐤁𐤌 - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Slender kithara-lyre with three strings; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 205. Mesh ² 55 (*these dies*). Mild 70 [34 examples cited, this coin being #19]. Extremely fine 400-600



159 Denarius (Silver, 3.06g ↑). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤇𐤐𐤣/𐤡𐤡 - 𐤌𐤌𐤍𐤡 - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤡𐤋𐤡𐤓𐤓𐤓𐤌𐤍𐤌𐤍 - 𐤋𐤇𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤌𐤍 - LḤRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. One-handled jug right with palm branch to right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 202. Mild 74 [six examples cited, this coin being #5, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Extremely fine 700-1000



160 Denarius (Silver, 3.32g ↑). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤇𐤐𐤣/𐤡𐤡 - 𐤌𐤌𐤍𐤡 - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤡𐤋𐤡𐤓𐤓𐤓𐤌𐤍𐤌𐤍 - 𐤋𐤇𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤌𐤍 - LḤRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. One-handled jug right with palm branch to right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 202. Mild 76 [nine examples cited, this coin being #1, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Nearly mint state 700-1000



161 Denarius (Silver, 2.96g ±). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤇𐤐𐤔/𐤡𐤍 - 𐤌𐤌𐤍𐤗 - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤡𐤍𐤗𐤓𐤠𐤌 - 𐤌𐤇𐤓𐤗𐤌 - LḤRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. One-handed jug right with palm branch to right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 202. Cf. Mesh ² 66b for this obverse die. Mild 81 [four examples cited, this coin being #1]. Understriking visible on both obverse and reverse (original striking is a provincial drachm of Trajan, reverse: Arabia, of the type Metcalf ANSMN 20, #17; reverse struck over original obverse). Very fine 1000-1300

Ex Cahn 66 (6 V 30), lot 414.

In 106 C.E. Cornelius Palma, Trajan's governor of Syria, had annexed Arabia Petrea. Later in his reign a number of outbreaks occurred between Jews, Romans and Greeks in Mesopotamia, Cyprus, Egypt and Cyrenaica. During 115-117 C.E., the Jews of the Diaspora, in contrast to the attitude in the Bar Kokhba War, conducted a number of insurrections precipitated in part by the harsh *fiscus Judaicus* levied by Rome, which had been initiated by Vespasian.



162 Denarius (Silver, 3.37g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤇𐤐𐤔/𐤡𐤍 - 𐤌𐤌𐤍𐤗 - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤡𐤍𐤗𐤓𐤠𐤌 - 𐤌𐤇𐤓𐤗𐤌 - LḤRWT YRWŠL - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Kithara-lyre with three strings; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 205. Mild 84 [51 examples cited, this coin being #13]. Ex Beit Mirsim hoard. Nearly extremely fine 400-600

The final *mem* is omitted on this reverse die; from a middle period striking, the die flaw near the second *waw* is not well-pronounced. This is the last appearance of the prolific obverse die 14 (see note to lot 151).



163 Denarius (Silver, 3.27g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM N'W - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֻת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Kithara-lyre with three strings; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 202. Mesh ² 66a (*these dies*). Mild 85 [36 examples cited, this coin being unrecorded]. Extremely fine 400-600



164 Denarius (Silver, 3.16g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM N'W - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֻת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Two upright trumpets, central dot; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 203. Mesh ² 59a (*these dies*). Mild 90 [six examples cited, this coin being #3, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Understriking visible but not attributable on obverse and reverse (obverse struck over original obverse of a Roman denarius, possibly of Trajan). Choice very fine 900-1100

Presumably the central dot visible on many Bar Kokhba denarii was made in the die by a compass in order to scribe the inscription, beading and chosen representation in a more regular fashion. This theory has parallels in ancient coinage of other places and eras.



165 Denarius (Silver, 3.35g ↗). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM N'W - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֻת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LḤRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Upright palm branch; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 204. Mild 92 [two examples cited, this coin being #1, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Choice very fine
1200-1500

Ex Hess-Leu 49, lot 286.



166 Denarius (Silver, 3.27g ↗). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM N'W - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֻת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LḤRWT YRWŠL - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Kithara-lyre with three strings; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 205. Mesh ² 55b (*these dies*). Mild 94 [11 examples cited, this coin being #6, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Understriking visible but not attributable on reverse (reverse struck over original obverse of a Roman denarius). Nearly extremely fine
600-800



167 Denarius (Silver, 2.95g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM N'W - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֻת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Kithara-lyre with three strings; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 205. Cf. Mesh ² 55a, b for this obverse die. Mild 98 [three examples cited, this coin being #2, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Nearly extremely fine 1200-1500

The Bar Kokhba coinage is particularly fascinating as a group within ancient numismatics because the coins themselves were so politically and religiously motivated, and only struck during such a short span (three years plus a few months). The specific nature of this coinage and the exhaustive research accomplished in Mildenberg's corpus cause collectors and numismatists to be able to concentrate on small questions in order to perceive the whole, rather than looking at the large picture hoping to discover the details.



168 Denarius (Silver, 3.28g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM N'W - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties, dots inside and outside of the wreath; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֻת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Upright palm branch; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 204 (*these dies*). Mesh ² 62a (*these dies*). Mild 103 [46 examples cited, this coin being #26]. Nearly extremely fine 400-600

Ex NFA III, lot 145.



169 Denarius (Silver, 3.36g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM N'W - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֹת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. One-handed jug right with palm branch to right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 202. Cf. Mesh ² 67a for this obverse die. Mild 104 [29 examples cited, this coin being #19, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. A lovely specimen, nearly extremely fine 400-600

In discussing ancient coinage, numismatists use the term "obverse" to indicate the lower die (anvil die), which generally exhibits a convexity after striking. The reverse die is the upper or punch die, which when struck, imparts a concavity to the planchet. Thus the types or legends have nothing to do with the determination of obverse or reverse.



170 Denarius (Silver, 3.27g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM N'W - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֹת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. One-handed jug right with palm branch to right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 202. Mild 109 [11 examples cited, this coin being #10]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Choice very fine 400-600



171 Denarius (Silver, 3.12g ↘). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - LḤRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Kithara-lyre with three strings; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 205. Cf. Mesh ² 55c for this reverse die. Mild 112 [12 examples cited, this coin being #12, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Superb 750-1000



172 Denarius (Silver, 3.57g ↘). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - LḤRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. One-handed jug right with palm branch to right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 202. Mild 113 [three examples cited, this coin being #1]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Extremely fine 1200-1500



173 Denarius (Silver, 3.40g ↑). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - LḤRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Upright palm branch; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 204. Mild 115 [23 examples cited, this coin being unrecorded]. Understriking visible on both obverse and reverse (original striking is a Roman denarius of Trajan; reverse struck over original obverse). Extremely fine 500-700



174 Denarius (Silver, 3.45g \). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֶת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. One-handed jug right with palm branch to right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 202. Mild 116 [10 examples cited, this coin being #3, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Extremely fine 500-700

This obverse die with the central dot just over the *nun* makes its last appearance here, being heavily damaged in the center.



175 Denarius (Silver, 3.34g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֶת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Kithara-lyre with three strings; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 205. Mild 117 [12 examples cited, this coin being #4, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Extremely fine 500-700



176 Denarius (Silver, 3.43g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Upright palm branch; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 204. Mesh ² 62 (*these dies*). Mild 122 [17 examples cited, this coin being #6]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Delicately toned, superb 500-700



177 Denarius (Silver, 3.29g ↑). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties, central dot; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Two upright trumpets; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 203. Cf. Mesh ² 59 for this obverse die, 60a for this reverse die. Mild 123 [20 examples cited, this coin being #2]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Understriking visible on reverse (original striking is a Roman denarius of, most probably, Nerva; reverse struck over original obverse). Extremely fine 400-500



178 Denarius (Silver, 3.64g ↑). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן / שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties, central dot; border of dots.

Reverse. שִׁמְעוֹן / שִׁמְעוֹן × שִׁמְעוֹן - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Two upright trumpets, central dot; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 203. Cf. Mesh ² 59 and 66 for this obverse die. Mild 125 [six examples cited, this coin being #1]. Understriking visible but not attributable on obverse and reverse (obverse struck over original obverse of a provincial drachm). Choice very fine 900-1200

The trumpets, in addition to the showbread table and the menorah, are shown as Jewish spoils taken during the *Bellum Judaicum* on the reliefs of the Arch of Titus, which was completed during the reign of Domitian.



179 Denarius (Silver, 3.30g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן / שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; border of dots.

Reverse. שִׁמְעוֹן / שִׁמְעוֹן × שִׁמְעוֹן - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. One-handled jug right with palm branch to right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 202 (*this obverse die*). Cf. Mesh ² 59, 66 and 67 for this obverse die. Mild 126 [18 examples cited, this coin being #6]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Large flan, nearly mint state 400-500



180 Denarius (Silver, 3.21g \pm). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן / שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties, central dot; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֶת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Kithara-lyre with three strings; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 205. Cf. Mesh ² 55c for this obverse die. Mild 127 [four examples cited, this coin being #2, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Scratch on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 900-1200



181 Denarius (Silver, 3.43g \pm). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן / שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties, central dot; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֶת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. One-handed jug right, no palm branch; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 202A (*these dies*). Mesh ² 67 (*this coin*). Mild 128 [23 examples cited, this coin being #6]. Understriking visible on obverse and reverse (original striking is a Roman denarius of Nerva; reverse struck over original obverse). Toned, nearly extremely fine 500-700



182 Denarius (Silver, 3.27g \uparrow). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. $\text{שִׁמְעוֹן} / \text{שִׁמְעוֹן}$ - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties, central dot; border of dots.

Reverse. $\text{לְחֵרֶת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם}$ - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Kithara-lyre with three strings; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 205. Mild 130 [108 examples cited, this coin being #65, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Obverse scratched, otherwise extremely fine 300-400

This example was struck during a late state of the reverse die, as evidenced by the substantial flaw in the center.



183 Denarius (Silver, 3.21g \nearrow). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. $\text{שִׁמְעוֹן} / \text{שִׁמְעוֹן}$ - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties, central dot; border of dots.

Reverse. $\text{לְחֵרֶת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם}$ - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. One-handled jug right with palm branch to right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 202 (*this obverse die*). Cf. Mesh ² 66 for this obverse die. Mild 133 [44 examples cited, this coin being #2, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Understriking visible on reverse (original striking is an unattributable provincial drachm; reverse struck over original obverse). Superb 400-500



184 Denarius (Silver, 3.39g ↑). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן / שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties, central dot; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֶת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. One-handed jug right with palm branch to right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 202 (*this obverse die*). Cf. Mesh ² 66 for this obverse die. Mild 135 [16 examples cited, this coin being #7, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Understriking visible on obverse and reverse (original striking is a Roman denarius of Nerva with clasped hands holding legionary eagle reverse; obverse struck over original obverse). Extremely fine 450-550



185 Denarius (Silver, 3.46g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן / שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties, central dot; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֶת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Upright palm branch; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 204. Mild 136 [20 examples cited, this coin being #7, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Understriking visible on obverse (original striking is a Roman denarius of Trajan; obverse struck over original obverse). Toned, extremely fine 450-550



186 Denarius (Silver, 3.27g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤌𐤓𐤕/𐤓𐤕 - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties; eleven dots placed around the wreath; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤕𐤌𐤓𐤕 𐤕𐤌𐤓𐤕 - LḤRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. One-handed jug right with palm branch to right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 202. Mild 138 [four examples cited, this coin being #1, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Understriking visible on reverse (original striking is likely a Roman denarius of Trajan; reverse struck over original obverse). Nearly mint state 1500-1750

This new obverse die has been connected with two reverse dies only, both much used, and is not known in fresh state. Only a total of 10 specimens of its production has been registered.



187 Denarius (Silver, 3.18g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤌𐤓𐤕 𐤓𐤕 - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with tiny vine leaf hanging from a cut branch; border of dots. (This obverse die has formerly been used in year 2 production.)

Reverse. 𐤕𐤌𐤓𐤕 𐤕𐤌𐤓𐤕 - LḤRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Kithara-lyre (small variety) with three strings; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 209C (*these dies*). Mesh ² 57 (*this coin*). Mild 139 [19 examples cited, this coin being #11, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Understriking visible on obverse and reverse (original striking is a Roman denarius of Trajan; obverse struck over original reverse). Choice very fine 450-550

The denarius, or the *zuz* as mentioned in the Dead Sea documents, utilizes the bunch of grapes as the main obverse type throughout the coinage, from the first engraved die of year one, through period 2 and those attributed to the final year of the war. The universality of this symbol of the fertility of the land is well documented in Jewish antiquity. The Bar Kokhba *zuz* was equivalent to, and indeed struck over, both Roman denarii (exhibiting Latin legends) and provincially minted drachms (recognizable by Greek legends).



188 Denarius (Silver, 3.35g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with tiny vine leaf hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - LḤRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Kithara-lyre with three strings; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 209. Mild 140 [three examples cited, this coin being #2, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Understriking visible on reverse (original striking is a Roman denarius of Vespasian or Titus; reverse struck over original obverse). Extremely fine 1300-1500



189 Denarius (Silver, 3.32g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with tiny vine leaf hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - LḤRWT YRWŠL - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Kithara-lyre with three strings; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 209. Mesh ² 57c (*these dies*). Mild 144 [four examples cited, this coin being #2, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Choice very fine 1000-1200

Ex J. Schulman 270, lot 2140.



190 Denarius (Silver, 3.01g ↓). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with tiny vine leaf hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - LḤRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Upright palm branch; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 206. Cf. Mesh ² 64 for this obverse die. Mild 145 [eight examples cited, this coin being #6, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Choice very fine 700-900



191 Denarius (Silver, 3.46g ↓). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with vine leaf hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֶת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Two upright trumpets; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 208. Mesh ² 60a (*these dies*). Mild 152 [37 examples cited, this coin being #21]. Understriking visible on obverse and reverse (original striking is a provincial drachm of Trajan, camel reverse; obverse struck over original obverse). Nearly extremely fine 400-600

The main reverse die break, from the first *resh* to the *taw*, made its first appearance as Mild 123 (see lot 177). On our number 188 here, it will be noticed that this flaw has worsened and yet another break occurs across the center of the right trumpet. Also, many of the letters have been recut or strengthened, quite visibly on the first *waw* and the *yod*.



192 Denarius (Silver, 3.63g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with vine leaf hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֶת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. One-handled jug right with palm branch to right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 207 (*these dies*). Mesh ² 68 (*these dies*). Mild 156 [25 examples cited, this coin being #1]. Ex Beit Mirsim hoard. Understriking visible on obverse and reverse (original striking is a Roman denarius of Trajan; obverse struck over original obverse). Extremely fine 400-500



193 Denarius (Silver, 3.28g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with large vine leaf hanging from a tendril at a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - LḤRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Kithara-lyre with three strings; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 209. Mild 159 [38 examples cited, this coin being #8]. Choice very fine

350-400

Ex Pine Tree 30 IV 74, lot 431.



194 Denarius (Silver, 3.12g ↓). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with vine leaf hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - LḤRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Two upright trumpets; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 208 (*this obverse die*). Cf. Mesh ² 60 for this obverse die, 60a for this reverse die. Mild 162 [four examples cited, this coin being #1, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Extremely fine 1200-1600

While most readers are probably more familiar with the shofar (of ram's or goat's horn), it is the metal trumpet, the ḥăšôṣerāh which is pictured on the Bar Kokhba denarii. Like the shofar, it is blown, rather than melodically played, on special occasions. Other important musical instruments in use by the ancient Jews which are not represented on the coinage are a form of the Greek aulos (double oboe), pipes, tambourine, cymbals and a variant of the Egyptian sistrum.



195 Denarius (Silver, 3.17g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with vine leaf hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֹת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - LḤRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. One-handed jug right, no palm branch; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 207 var (no palm branch to right of jug). Mesh ² 69 (*these dies*). Mild 164 [40 examples cited, this coin being #28]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Understriking visible on obverse and reverse (original striking is a Roman denarius of Trajan; obverse struck over original obverse). Nearly extremely fine 450-550



196 Denarius (Silver, 2.95g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with vine leaf hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֹת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - LḤRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Two upright trumpets, central dot; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 208 (*these dies*). Mesh ² 60 (*these dies*). Mild 167 [107 examples cited, this coin being #55]. Understriking visible on obverse and reverse (original striking is a provincial drachm, possibly of Trajan; reverse struck over original obverse). Nearly extremely fine 400-500



197 Denarius (Silver, 3.64g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with vine leaf hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֵת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Upright palm branch; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 206 (*this reverse die*). Mild 170 [17 examples cited, this coin being #15, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Understriking visible but not attributable on both obverse and reverse (original striking is a Roman denarius, perhaps of Trajan; obverse struck over original obverse). Extremely fine 450-550



198 Denarius (Silver, 3.39g ↓). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with tendrils hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֵת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Kithara-lyre with three strings; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 209 (*this obverse die*). Cf. Mesh ² 57a for this obverse die. Mild 173 [three examples cited, this coin being #3]. Understriking visible on obverse and reverse (original striking is a Flavian denarius; obverse struck over original obverse). Nearly mint state 1500-1800

Ex NFA VIII, lot 364.



199 Denarius (Silver, 2.36g ±). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמׁוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with tendrils hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֶת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Kithara-lyre with three strings; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 209 (*this obverse die*). Mesh ² 57a (*this coin*). Mild 174 [24 examples cited, this coin being #9]. Understriking visible on reverse (original striking is a provincial drachm of Trajan; reverse struck over original obverse). Toned, extremely fine 550-700



200 Denarius (Silver, 2.98g ±). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמׁוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with tendrils hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֶת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Kithara-lyre with three strings; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 209 (*this obverse die*). Cf. Mesh ² 57a for this obverse die. Mild 176 [six examples cited, this coin being #2, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Extremely fine 800-1000



201 Denarius (Silver, 3.41g ±). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with tendrils hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֹת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Kithara-lyre with three strings; border of dots.

Mesh¹ 209. Mild 177 [five examples cited, this coin being #2, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Extremely fine
800-1000

Ex J. Schulman 270, lot 2139.

While this reverse die was not placed into use before or after this pair, a small but noticeable die flaw, perceived first as a dot, appears between the second and third strings of the lyre. Here it is in an early stage of development.



202 Denarius (Silver, 3.23g ±). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with tendrils hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֹת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Kithara-lyre with three strings; border of dots.

Mesh¹ 209 (*this obverse die*). Cf. Mesh² 57a and 57b for this obverse die. Mild 182 [six examples cited, this coin being #2, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Choice very fine
650-850

Ex Hess-Leu 3 IV 63, J 82.

Ex Brand collection.

Although not fully substantiated, all recorded examples of Mild 182 are most likely ex 1889 "Hebron" hoard. This, the earliest Bar Kokhba hoard recorded, consisted of 46 tetradrachms and a few hundred denarii; it constituted the bulk of the Bar Kokhba silver coins in commerce until decades later, when other prodigious hoards were unearthed.



203 Denarius (Silver, 3.48g !). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - שִׁמְעוֹן - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with tendrils hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - LĤRWŦ YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Kithara-lyre with three strings; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 209 (*this obverse die*). Cf. Mesh ² 57a and 57b for this obverse die. Mild 186 [101 examples cited, this coin being #46]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Understriking visible on obverse (original striking is a Roman denarius, probably of Vespasian; obverse struck over original obverse). Nearly mint state 350-450

This is one of the largest outputs from one pair of dies, the obverse die having been widely used before. Nevertheless, it reveals only two light breaks, a blind spot left of the bunch of grapes and a cross in the 'ayin, making it appear as a Greek capital *theta*.



204 Denarius (Silver, 3.49g ↑). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - שִׁמְעוֹן - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with tendrils hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - LĤRWŦ YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Two upright trumpets; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 208. Mild 187 [11 examples cited, this coin being #2, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Extremely fine 500-650



205 Denarius (Silver, 3.34g ↓). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמ׳וֹן - שִׁמ׳וֹן - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with tendrils hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֶת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - LĤRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. One-handed jug right with palm branch to right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 207. Mild 189 [two examples cited, this coin being #1, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Extremely fine 1200-1500



206 Denarius (Silver, 3.18g ↓). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמ׳וֹן - שִׁמ׳וֹן - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with tendrils hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֶת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - LĤRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. One-handed jug right with palm branch to right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 207. Mild 192 [two examples cited, this coin being #1, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Extremely fine 1500-1800

Ex Leu 28, lot 297.

The small population of this die pair is at least partly due to the extensive die breaks which produced severely flawed mint products. Also, notice that the celator erred in his engraving of the obverse grapes, copying the details of a finished coin with the preceding obverse Mild 21 on his die, hence producing a reversed image.



207 Denarius (Silver, 3.25g ±). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - שִׁמְעוֹן - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with tendril hanging left from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֶת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - LĤRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. One-handed jug right with palm branch to right; border of dots.

Mesh¹ 207. Mild 197 [15 examples cited, this coin being #14, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Understriking visible but not attributable on obverse (original striking is a Roman denarius; obverse struck over original obverse). Nearly extremely fine 400-500

The last obverse die in the regular denarii coinage still displays a beautifully engraved, well-balanced bunch of grapes. Its production is prolific.



208 Denarius (Silver, 3.21g ±). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - שִׁמְעוֹן - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with tendril hanging left from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֶת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - LĤRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Two upright trumpets; border of dots.

Mesh¹ 208. Cf. Mesh² 60b for this obverse die. Mild 199 [28 examples cited, this coin being #10, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Extremely fine 400-500



209 Denarius (Silver, 3.62g ↓). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמ׳וֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with tendril hanging left from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֶת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - LḤRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Kithara-lyre with three strings; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 209. Cf. Mesh ² 60b for this obverse die. Mild 205 [32 examples cited, this coin being #8, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Nearly extremely fine 300-400

At the end of the regular denarii production only one obverse die (number 24) is used. For the reverse type the kithara-lyre solely appears for the final twenty pairs.



210 Denarius (Silver, 3.23g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמ׳וֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with tendril hanging left from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֶת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - LḤRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Kithara-lyre with three strings; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 209. Cf. Mesh ² 60b for this obverse die, 57b for this reverse die. Mild 206 [seven examples cited, this coin being #7, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Understriking visible on obverse and reverse (original striking is a Flavian denarius; obverse struck over original obverse). Nearly extremely fine

600-750



211 Denarius (Silver, 3.37g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמ׳וֹן - שִׁמ׳וֹן - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with tendril hanging left from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֶת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Kithara-lyre with three strings; border of dots.

Mesh¹ 209. Mild 209 [17 examples cited, this coin being #5, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Understriking visible on obverse and reverse (original striking is a denarius of Domitian; obverse struck over original obverse). Nicely toned, extremely fine 500-600

A great many historical facts of the Bar Kokhba War were lost to us until the papyri finds in the Judaeen desert some thirty years ago. Before this time, we relied almost exclusively upon the numismatic evidence, as there were few passages in Rabbinic literature; Roman sources are scant concerning the war.



212 Denarius (Silver, 3.36g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמ׳וֹן - שִׁמ׳וֹן - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with tendril hanging left from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֶת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Kithara-lyre with three strings; border of dots.

Mesh¹ 209. Mild 212 [eight examples cited, this coin being #3, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Understriking visible on reverse (original striking is a denarius of Trajan; reverse most probably struck over original obverse). Extremely fine 550-700



213 Denarius (Silver, 3.33g ↓). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with tendril hanging left from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֵת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Kithara-lyre with three strings; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 209. Mild 219 [two examples cited, this coin being #1, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Very fine
1500-1800

Ex Hess-Leu 28, lot 293.

After long, prolific service, (a total of twenty-seven die pairs), the obverse die is quite worn, giving the illusion of this specimen being weakly struck. More typical of irregular dies, the relief of the reverse is quite flat.

IRREGULAR COINAGE - Small Silver



214 Denarius (Silver, 2.41g ✓). Irregular coinage. Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM ' - Shim'. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties, central dot; border of dots.

Reverse. שְׁבַע לְחֵרֵת יִשְׂרָאֵל - ŠB LHR Š'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. One-handed jug right with palm branch to right; border of dots.

Mild 222 [this is the sole specimen cited from this die pair, being listed and illustrated as example #1]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Uncleaned, otherwise choice very fine
2500-3000

It was the El Fawar hoard which brought to the light of day most of the irregular silver coinage examples. Indeed, it is this hoard which gave us many die-links between the irregular issues and imparted to us strong evidence which suggests two different Bar Kokhba mints were concurrently in operation at the very end of the war.



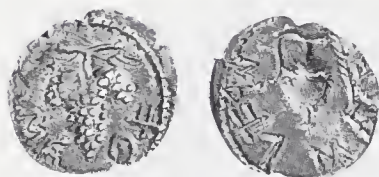
215 Denarius (Silver, 2.42g ↑). Irregular coinage. Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. օ/ֹ/שׁוֹמ - שִׁמ׳ - Shim׳. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties, central dot; border of dots.

Reverse. לִפְנֵי הַיְּהוָה - שְׁבִי לְחֵרֶשׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. One-handed jug right with palm branch to right; border of dots.

Mesh ² 34 (*this coin illustrated*). Mild 223 [this is the sole specimen cited from this die pair, being listed and illustrated as example #1]. Extremely fine 3000-3500

It is not exactly certain what role the irregular coinage fulfilled during the Bar Kokhba War. There are relatively very few examples known for each of the die combinations, with many of the irregular issues being the sole surviving exemplar. A likely theory has been proposed that the irregular coinage was produced by another mint operating close to the rebels and their military camp in an area which was cut off from the main body of the forces. The minting of the coins took place wherever the unit was, similar to that used during the Roman Imperial period, in which many issues were coined by a moving military mint.



216 Denarius (Silver, 2.39g /). Irregular coinage. Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמ׳ֹן - שִׁמ׳ֹן - Shim׳on. Triform bunch of grapes with vine leaf and tendril hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לִפְנֵי הַיְּהוָה - שְׁבִי לְחֵרֶשׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. One-handed jug right with palm branch to right; border of dots.

Mesh ² 37 (*this coin illustrated*). Mild 224 [two examples cited, this coin being #2, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Nearly extremely fine 1800-2200



217 Denarius (Silver, 2.51g ↓). Irregular coinage. Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמ׳וֹן - ŠM ʿ - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with tendrils hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. שְׁבַע לְחֹרֵת יִשְׂרָאֵל - ŠB LḤR YŚ[ʿL] - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Upright palm branch; border of dots.

Mild 226 [this is the sole specimen cited from this die pair, being listed and illustrated as example #1]. Extremely fine
2500-3000

Ex Leu 33, lot 440.

The differences in the manufacture of the irregular coinage not only include stylistic and epigraphic variations of a cruder sort, but in a technical manner, the dies might not have been hinged as they were for the regular emissions, and perhaps there was no ring device to secure the flan during striking.

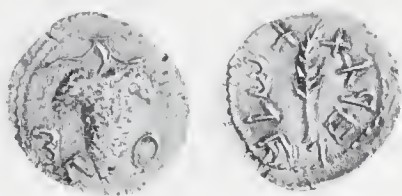


218 Denarius (Silver, 3.87g ↓). Irregular coinage. Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמ׳ - ŠM ʿ - Shim'. Inscription within wreath topped by a medallion and terminating in ribbon ties, central dot; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֹרֵת יִשְׂרָאֵל - LḤRWT RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Kithara-lyre with three strings; border of dots.

Mild 232 [this is the sole specimen cited from this die pair, being listed and illustrated as example #1]. Extremely fine
2800-3200



219 Denarius (Silver, 2.66g ±). Irregular coinage. Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. 0 ☽ω - ŠM ' - Shim'. Triform bunch of grapes with tendril hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤒𐤠𐤛𐤕 𐤕𐤁𐤒𐤠 - LḤRWT WŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Upright palm branch; border of dots.

Mild 246 [three examples cited, this coin being #2, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Extremely fine 2500-3000



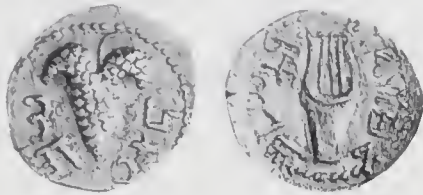
220 Denarius (Silver, 3.48g /). Irregular coinage. Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. 𐎶𐎠𐎺 𐎶𐎠𐎺 - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes with tendril hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤔𐤏𐤍𐤕 / 𐤀𐤒𐤌 - LHRWT WŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Kithara-lyre with three strings; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 209B. Mild 248 [this is the sole specimen cited from this die pair, being listed and illustrated as example #1]. Understriking is visible but not attributable on obverse (original striking is a Roman denarius; obverse struck over original obverse). Uncleaned, nearly extremely fine 3000-3500

Ex Leu 28, lot 299.



221 Denarius (Silver, 3.30g ↓). Irregular coinage. Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֻת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LHRW, RWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Kithara-lyre with three strings; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 209B. Mild 249 [this is the sole specimen cited from this die pair, being listed and illustrated as example #1]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Extremely fine 3000-3500

Talmudic sources reveal to us that the Bar Kokhba coinage was invalidated by the Roman victory, and the entire coinage became not only worthless as tender, but also dangerous or illegal to possess. Before the large finds of the last decades, few Bar Kokhba silver coins existed.



222 Denarius (Silver, 3.37g ↓). Irregular coinage. Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'N W - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֻת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Two upright trumpets; border of dots.

Mesh ² 61b (*this coin*). Mild 252 [two examples cited, this coin being #2, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Understriking visible on obverse (original striking is probably a coin of Nero; obverse struck over original obverse). Ex El Fawar hoard. Superb 3000-3500

The reverse inscription begins left above, which is quite unusual, even in the irregular group.

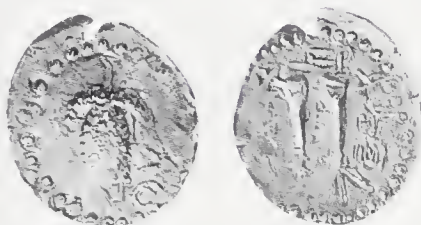


223 Denarius (Silver, 3.40g /). Irregular coinage. Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שׁמ'ון - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרֵם יְרוּשָׁלַם - LḤRW YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Two upright trumpets, central dot; border of dots.

Mesh² 61 (*this coin*). Mild 253 [this is the sole specimen cited from this die pair, being listed and illustrated as example #1]. Nearly extremely fine 2800-3200



224 Denarius (Silver, 3.48g ↑). Irregular coinage. Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שׁ [only two letters visible] - 'W - (Shim'on). Triform bunch of grapes hanging from a stem; border of dots.

Reverse. Illegible, until שׁמ'ון - equivalent to LḤRW YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Two upright trumpets; border of dots.

Mild 256 [this is the sole specimen cited from this die pair, being listed and illustrated as example #1]. Ex El Fawar hoard. Crudely struck, otherwise toned extremely fine 3000-3500



225 Denarius (Silver, 3.24g /). Irregular coinage. Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'N W - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

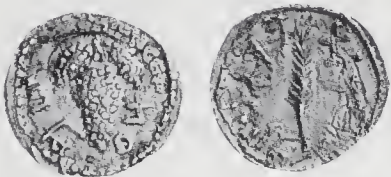
Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - LHRWT YRW - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Upright palm branch; border of dots.

Mild 261 [two examples cited, this coin being #1, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Understriking visible on obverse and reverse (original striking is possibly a provincial drachm of Trajan; obverse struck over original obverse). Well struck but light reverse scratching, otherwise choice very fine 2000-2500

Ex J. Vinchon 30 VI 78, lot 102.

Ex NFA (Edward Gans) 19 IV 60, lot 444.

Ex Naville-Ars Classica V, lot 2863.



226 Denarius (Silver, 3.26g ↓). Irregular coinage. Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - שִׁמְעוֹן - ŠM 'W - Shim'on. Triform bunch of grapes hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. לְחֵרְוֵת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Upright palm branch; border of dots.

Mild 265 [11 examples cited, this coin being #2, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Understriking visible on obverse (original striking is a provincial drachm of Trajan; obverse struck over original obverse). Somewhat doubled from striking, otherwise extremely fine 2000-2500

In Mildenberg's corpus a total of 3586 denarii has been recorded as minted during all three years of the war, having been struck from 265 die combinations.

LARGE BRONZES



227 Large Bronze (32mm, 25.30g \uparrow). Dated year One, 132/3 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤋𐤕𐤑𐤞𐤕 𐤕𐤕𐤞𐤕 𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕 - ŠM'WN NSY' YSR'L - Shim'on Prince of Israel. Inscription within palm wreath topped by a medallion; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤋𐤕𐤑𐤞𐤕 𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕 [𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕] 𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕 - ŠNT 'HT LG'LT YSR'L - Year one of the Redemption of Israel. Amphora with fluted body, conical foot and handles from middle of neck to shoulders; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 169. Mesh ² 3b (*these dies*). Mild 1 [24 examples cited, this coin being #14, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Obverse pin scratched, otherwise choice very fine . 8000-10,000

Ex NFA III, lot 116.

The rarity of all large bronzes of the Bar Kokhba War is considerable; in fact, there is a grand total of only 149 registered examples of this impressive denomination (Mildenberg 1-19), utilizing four substantive types.



228 Large Bronze (35.5mm, 37.67g \uparrow). Dated year One, 132/3 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤋𐤕𐤑𐤞𐤕 𐤕𐤕𐤞𐤕 𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕 - ŠM'WN NSY' YSR'L - Shim'on Prince of Israel. Inscription within palm wreath topped by a medallion; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤋𐤕𐤑𐤞𐤕 𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕 𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕 - ŠNT 'HT LG'LT YSR'L - Year One of the Redemption of Israel. Amphora with fluted body, conical foot and handles from middle of neck to shoulders; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 169 (*this obverse die*). Cf. Mesh ² 3b for this obverse die. Mild 3 [five examples cited, this coin being #1]. Very large and well preserved; very fine 9000-12,000

Ex Garrett II (Leu-NFA), lot 309.

Ex Bement Collection (sold privately, not included in Naville-Ars Classica VII).

John Work Garrett purchased this coin through Wayte Raymond in April of 1924. It became part of what certainly was one of the largest and most diversified of all numismatic holdings ever formed in the world, and one of the very few family endeavors in our field. The father of John Garrett, T. Harrison Garrett, began collecting coins in the 1860's while a student at Princeton; the Garrett family managed the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.



229 Large Bronze (27.5mm, 19.85g ↑). Dated year One, 132/3 C.E.

Obverse. שמעון נסיך ישראל - ŠM'WN NŠY' YŠR'L - Shim'on Prince of Israel. Inscription within olive wreath topped by a medallion; border of dots.

Reverse. שנת חת לגלות ישראל - ŠNT ḤT LG'LT YŠR'L - Year One of the Redemption of Israel. Amphora with fluted body, conical foot and handles from middle of neck to shoulders; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 169 (*this obverse die*). Mesh ² 3 (*these dies*). Mild 10 [27 examples cited, this coin being #25]. Choice very fine 6000-8000



230 Large Bronze (28mm, 11.00g ↑). Dated year One, 132/3 C.E.

Obverse. ירושלם - YRW ŠLM - Jerusalem. Inscription within laurel wreath topped by a medallion; border of dots.

Reverse. שנת חת לגלות ישראל - ŠNT ḤT LG'LT YŠR'L - Year One of the Redemption of Israel. Amphora with fluted body, conical foot and handles; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 168. Mesh ² 4 (*this coin*). Mild 12 [13 examples cited, this coin being #1]. Even greenish-brown patination, choice very fine 7000-9000

Ex JNFA (Encino, CA) vol. 13, 2-4, 1974, coin J.18.

Only 16 specimens altogether are recorded of this very rare and popular type (four die pairs, Mild 12-15).



231 Large Bronze (32.5mm, 16.62g ↑). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. ירלמ שלמ - YRW ŠLM - Jerusalem. Inscription within olive wreath topped by a medallion; border of dots.

Reverse. שנת חירות שני - ŠB LHR YŠR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Amphora with fluted body, conical foot and handles from middle of neck to shoulders; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 191. Mesh ² 38 and 38a (*these dies*). Mild 18 [13 examples cited, this coin being #9]. Possessing the usual large flan crack for this die pairing; choice very fine and most attractive 8000-10,000

There are only 21 examples listed of the three die pairings (Mild 16-18) of this, the third substantive type of the "Abu Djarahs" (large bronzes). They are nicknamed thus by their Arab market, as the translation of "Abu Djarah" is "father of the vessel," or big vase.

This is one of the most beautiful of all Jewish coins in image and lettering, and one of the most pleasing renderings of an ancient amphora known.



232 Large Bronze (32mm, 13.20g ↑). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. שמעון - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Inscription within olive wreath topped by a medallion; border of dots.

Reverse. שנת חירות שני - ŠB LHR YŠR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Amphora with fluted body, conical foot and handles from middle of neck to shoulders; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 192 (*these dies*). Mesh ² 39 (*this coin*). Mild 19 [11 examples cited, this coin being #6, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Filing marks, otherwise nearly extremely fine 12,000-15,000

This coin, one of the rarest of all Jewish coin types, is from the single die pair of the "Shim'on" obverse, in the manner of the denarii, with the "Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel" reverse. In Mildenberg's corpus only eleven examples are registered; this being one of the very finest. Most of this die pair are filed. Obviously, the underlying coin had high reliefs with details (such as the portrayals of Roman emperors) the overstriking could not cover. The file was a handy tool to eradicate the hated features forever.

MEDIUM BRONZES



233 Medium Bronze (24mm, 10.66g ↑). Dated year One, 132/3 C.E.

Obverse. לִפְנֵימֶלֶךְ פְּנֵימֶלֶךְ שִׁמְעוֹן נָשִׂיא יִשְׂרָאֵל - ŠM'WN NŚY' YŚR'L - Shim'on Prince of Israel. Upright palm branch within laurel wreath topped by a medallion; border of dots.

Reverse. לִפְנֵימֶלֶךְ פְּנֵימֶלֶךְ שְׁנַת חַטּ לְגִלְתּוֹת יִשְׂרָאֵל - ŠNT 'HT LG'LT YŚR'L - Year One of the Redemption of Israel. Chelys-lyre with five strings and hornlike protrusions left and right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 172 (*this obverse die*). Mesh ² 6b (*these dies*). Mild 20 [seven examples cited, this coin being #7]. Attractive green and red patination, nearly extremely fine 700-900

Ex Hess-Leu 49, lot 276.

Shim'on bar Kosiba, the man called Bar Kokhba, assumed the right of coinage as Prince of Israel. He took over the ownership of the crown lands from Hadrian, leased it to the peasants, and provided the sole coinage which was lawful to use in Judaea during this period. These very same coins, which we now touch, treasure and study, were as well forceful statements, and indeed a battle cry for the restoration of Jerusalem and its Temple.



234 Medium Bronze (21.5mm, 9.96g ↑). Dated year One, 132/3 C.E.

Obverse. לִפְנֵימֶלֶךְ פְּנֵימֶלֶךְ שִׁמְעוֹן נָשִׂיא יִשְׂרָאֵל - ŠM'WN NŚY' YŚR'L - Shim'on Prince of Israel. Upright palm branch within laurel wreath topped by a medallion; border of dots.

Reverse. לִפְנֵימֶלֶךְ פְּנֵימֶלֶךְ שְׁנַת חַטּ לְגִלְתּוֹת יִשְׂרָאֵל - ŠNT 'HT LG'LT YŚR'L - Year One of the Redemption of Israel. Chelys-lyre with six strings and hornlike protrusions left and right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 172 (*this obverse die*). Mesh ² 6 (*this coin*). Mild 23 [23 examples cited, this coin being #1]. Nearly extremely fine 700-900



235 Medium Bronze (24mm, 12.24g \searrow). Dated year One, 132/3 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤋𐤕𐤑𐤞𐤕 𐤕𐤕𐤞𐤕 𐤕𐤕𐤞𐤕 - ŠM'WN NŠY' YSR'L - Shim'on Prince of Israel. Upright palm branch within laurel wreath topped by a medallion; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤕𐤕𐤞𐤕𐤕 𐤕𐤕𐤕 𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕 𐤕𐤕𐤕 - ŠNT 'HT LG'LT YSR'L - Year One of the Redemption of Israel. Chelys-lyre with four strings and hornlike protrusions left and right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 172 (*these dies*). Mesh ² 6e (*this coin*). Mild 24 [16 examples cited, this coin being #2, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Nearly extremely fine 700-900



236 Medium Bronze (25.5mm, 10.90 \searrow). Dated year One, 132/3 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤋𐤕𐤑𐤞𐤕 𐤕𐤕𐤞𐤕 𐤕𐤕𐤞𐤕 - ŠM'WN NŠY' YSR'L - Shim'on Prince of Israel. Upright palm branch within laurel wreath topped by a medallion; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤋𐤕𐤑𐤞𐤕𐤕𐤕 𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕 𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕 - ŠNT 'HT LG'LT YSR'L - Year One of the Redemption of Israel. Chelys-lyre with four strings and hornlike protrusions left and right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 172. Mesh ² 6g (*these dies*). Mild 25 [four examples cited, this coin being #4]. Large flan, choice very fine 800-1000

Ex NFA III, lot 120.



237 Medium Bronze (20mm, 5.65g ↑). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. לִפְנֵימֶלֶךְ פֶּלֶאֱשֶׁתִּי שִׁמְעוֹן בֶּן יִשְׂרָאֵל - ŠM'WN N ŠY' YŠR'L - Shim'on Prince of Israel. Upright palm branch within laurel wreath topped by a medallion; border of dots.

Reverse. לִפְנֵימֶלֶךְ שְׁבַע לְחֹרֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל - ŠB LHR YŠR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Chelys-lyre with five strings and hornlike protrusions left and right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 193. Mesh ² 46 (*these dies*). Mild 28 [7 examples cited, this coin being #6, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Some filing, otherwise choice very fine 800-1000

The small palm branch-lyre group of the medium bronzes combines different legends, deviating from the general strict order. The inscription "Shim'on Prince of Israel" appears here only with "Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel." The same is true for the transitional issue, connecting the legends "For the Freedom of Jerusalem" with "Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel."



238 Medium Bronze (22mm, 6.55g ↑). Dated year 2 but struck 133/5 C.E.

Obverse. לְחֹרֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל שְׁבַע לְחֹרֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Upright palm branch within laurel wreath topped by a medallion; border of dots.

Reverse. לִפְנֵימֶלֶךְ שְׁבַע לְחֹרֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל - ŠB LHR YŠR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Chelys-lyre with four strings and hornlike protrusions left and right; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 194 (*these dies*). Mesh ² 50a (*these dies*). Mild 30 [15 examples cited, this coin being unrecorded]. Choice very fine 500-700



241 Medium Bronze (24mm, 10.20g \searrow). Dated year One, 132/3 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤀𐤕𐤑𐤍𐤁𐤏𐤇𐤓𐤕𐤔𐤗 - ŠNT ḥṭ LGʾLT YSRʾL - Year One of the Redemption of Israel. Small five-lobed vine leaf with tendrils hanging on cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤔𐤌'𐤓𐤏𐤌𐤓𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤕 - ŠM'WN NŠY' YŠR'L - Shim'on Prince of Israel. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 170 A (*same vine leaf die*). Mesh ² 5b (*same vine leaf die*). Mild 35 [two examples cited, this coin being #1, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Very fine 600-750



242 Medium Bronze (26mm, 11.18g \). Dated year One, 132/3 C.E.

Obverse. JF9WZ XJF7JX8FXYW - ŠNT 'HT LG'LT Y ŠR'L - Year One of the Redemption of Israel. Three-lobed vine leaf with tendril hanging on cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤠𐤫𐤱𐤪𐤥𐤳𐤨𐤢𐤩𐤣𐤧 - ŠM'WN NŠY' YŚR'L - Shim'on Prince of Israel. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 170 (*these dies*). Mesh ² 5 (*this coin*). Mild 45 [large issue, this coin being #4]. Well detailed, choice very fine
650-800

An extra letter, a *shin* or *sin*, has been erroneously added to the reverse die inscription.



243 Medium Bronze (25mm, 8.07g ↓). Dated year One but presumably struck somewhat later.

Obverse. יְשׁוּעָה לְיִשְׂרָאֵל שְׁנַת חֵט' לְג' לְת' יִשְׂרָאֵל - ŠNT ḤT LG'LT YŠR'L - Year One of the Redemption of Israel. Three-lobed vine leaf with tendril hanging on cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - שְׁמ' - Shim'on. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 171. Mild 47 [10 examples cited, this coin being #8]. Understriking visible but not attributable on reverse. Very fine 400-500



244 Medium Bronze (27.5mm, 14.46 \). Dated year One but struck 132/4 C.E.

Obverse. יְשׁוּעָה לְיִשְׂרָאֵל שְׁנַת חֵט' לְג' לְת' יִשְׂרָאֵל - ŠNT ḤT LG'LT YŠR'L - Year One of the Redemption of Israel. Three-lobed vine leaf with tendril hanging on cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - שְׁמ'N - Shim'on (the *waw* is missing). Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 171. Mild (reverse die unlisted). Choice very fine 1200-1600

Here an obverse die, much used in "Year One," has been connected with a reverse die of the "Year 2" type. This obviously is a transitional striking, perhaps a trial piece, all the more as the final *mm* seems to be added near the border at a later stage.



245 Medium Bronze (24mm, 11.32g ↓). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. לִפְרֹמֶן שְׁמֹן שָׁב לְחֵרְיָם ל' - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Three-lobed vine leaf with cut branch and two tendrils; border of dots.

Reverse. שְׁמֹן שָׁב ל' - Shim'on. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 195. Cf. Mesh ² 43 for this vine leaf die. Mild 49 [nine examples cited, this coin being #1, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Choice very fine 300-400

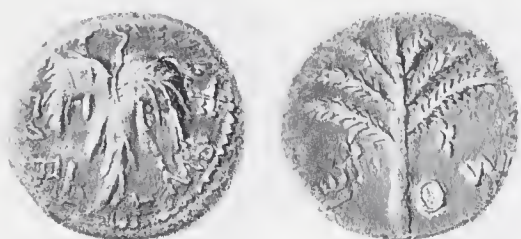


246 Medium Bronze (26mm, 11.27g ↓). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse לִפְרֹמֶן שְׁמֹן שָׁב לְחֵרְיָם ל' - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Three-lobed vine leaf with cut branch and tendril; border of dots.

Reverse. שְׁמֹן שָׁב ל' - Shim'on. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 195 (*same vine leaf die*). Mild 64 [17 examples cited, this coin being unrecorded]. Choice very fine 250-300



247 Medium Bronze (25mm, 10.24g !). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. ל'פ' ת'שנ"ב - ש'ב ל'הר י'סר'ל - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Three-lobed vine leaf with tendril and leaf hanging on cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. ש'ן מ' - ש'ן מ' - Shim'on. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 195. Cf. Mesh ² 43a for this vine leaf die. Mild 68 [five examples cited, this coin being #1, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Very fine 250-300



248 Medium Bronze (25.5mm, 8.74g !). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. ל'פ' ת'שנ"ב - ש'ב ל'הר י'סר'ל - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Three-lobed vine leaf with tendrils and leaf hanging on cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. ש'ן מ' - ש'ן מ' - Shim'on. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 195. Cf. Mesh ² 42b for this vine leaf die. Mild 80 [eight examples cited, this coin being unrecorded]. Sharp and complete lettering, about extremely fine 300-350



249 Medium Bronze (24mm, 12.41g ↓). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. לַפְּגֻשׁוֹת לְשׁוֹן - שְׁבִי לְחֵרֶשׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Three-lobed vine leaf hanging on cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. שִׁמְעוֹן בֶּן־קוֹסִיבָא - שִׁמְעוֹן - Shim'on. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 195. Mild 82 [three examples cited, this coin being #1]. Attractive green and red patina, extremely fine

400-500

On the various crown leases to peasants found in the desert caves, Bar Kokhba dates the documents as he dates his coins. An agreement drafted in the second year of the war reads, "[In] Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel"; in addition, his name and title are identical to the numismatic evidence, "Shim'on [ben Kosiba], Prince of Israel." The leases seem generally to have been written and payable at Herodion, the likely headquarters of his forces.



250 Medium Bronze (24mm, 13.94g ↓). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. לַפְּגֻשׁוֹת לְשׁוֹן - שְׁבִי לְחֵרֶשׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Three-lobed vine leaf hanging on cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. שִׁמְעוֹן בֶּן־קוֹסִיבָא - שִׁמְעוֹן - Shim'on. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 195. Cf. Mesh ² 42a for this vine leaf die. Mild 87 [nine examples cited, this coin being unrecorded]. Even brown patina, extremely fine

400-500



251 Medium Bronze (30mm, 15.63g ↓). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤅𐤋𐤍𐤁 𐤒𐤚𐤕𐤁 𐤒𐤁𐤋 - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Five-lobed vine leaf with tendrils hanging on cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤒𐤓𐤕 𐤅𐤋 - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 211A (*these dies*). Mesh ² 73 (*these dies*). Mild 102 [large issue, this coin being unrecorded]. On a large flan; uncleaned, otherwise very fine 300-400



252 Medium Bronze (26mm, 9.12g ↓). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤅𐤋𐤍𐤁 𐤒𐤚𐤕𐤁 𐤒𐤁𐤋 - LHRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Five-lobed vine leaf with tendril hanging on cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤒𐤓𐤕 𐤅𐤋 - ŠM 'NW - Shim'on. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 211A. Rogers p. 57, 98c and plate VII, 3 (*this coin*). L. Mildenberg, "Numismatische Evidenz zur Chronologie der Bar Kochba - Erhebung," SNR 1948/1949, pp. 19-27 and *idem*, "Numismatic Evidence," HSCP vol. 91, 1987, pp. 381-2 and figs. 1-2 (*this coin*). Mild 107 [five examples cited (but others mentioned as possibly being ex Herodion)]. Considerable parts of the underlying coin visible on obverse and reverse: the dates 192 (era of Ascalon) and year 3 (era of Hadrian in Gaza: 3rd year after his roundtrip-visit in the city), both resulting 131/132 C.E. (see BMC Palestine p. 149, 31 and plate XV, 14), thus just the immediate period before the beginning of the Bar Kokhba War. Obverse struck over original obverse. Choice very fine 600-800

Ex Sotheby 25 X 84 (Brand, part 7), lot 233.

Virgil Brand, a very successful brewer in Chicago, amassed an immense collection of over 300,000 coins of which this important bronze was one. Reclusive in his habits, he would study the coins he loved so well in his apartment above the brewery, notating descriptions and prices paid in his volumes of ledgers. From before the turn of the century until his death in 1926, he added, on an average, about 10,000 coins each year, including many important coins of antiquity as well as of the United States, medieval times and of the world in general.



253 Medium Bronze (25mm, 9.42g ↓). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. ש לִוְאָה עֲלֵי חֵטְאֵי בִל - LḤRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Five-lobed vine leaf with tendrils hanging on cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. שָׁמוֹן שֶׁמֶן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 211B (*same vine leaf die*). Cf. Mesh ² 74d for this vine leaf die. Mild 122 [two examples cited, this coin being #1]. Very fine 300-350



254 Medium Bronze (26mm, 11.62g ↓). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. ש לִוְאָה עֲלֵי חֵטְאֵי בִל - LḤRWT YRWŠLM - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Five-lobed vine leaf with tendril hanging on cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. שָׁמוֹן שֶׁמֶן - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 211. Mesh ² 74a (*this coin*). Mild 140 [this is the sole specimen cited from this die pair, being listed and illustrated as example #1]. Choice very fine 500-700

SMALL BRONZES



255 Small Bronze (18.5mm, 6.47g ±). Dated year One, 132/3 C.E.

Obverse. 9Ω⊥ ×ℓƒℓ ×⊞ƒ ×ƳΩ - ŠNT 'ḤT LG'LT YŚR - Year One of the Redemption of Israel. Triform bunch of grapes with vine leaf hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤀 𐤓 𐤐 𐤕 𐤁 𐤅 𐤔 𐤕 (retrograde or mirror script) - 'L' ZNRH KH - Eleazar the Priest. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 174 (*these dies*). Mesh ² 8 (*these dies*). Mildenberg, Eleazar 1. Mild 147 [large issue, this coin being unrecorded]. Choice very fine 600-800

This and the following four lots have utilized Mild obverse die 1, which was the same obverse die to strike the first silver denarii. Because of the obverse die flaw which developed and can be noticed in the grape stalk and final *resh* in the silver denarii striking of Mild 1 (represented in lot 129 of this catalogue), it is known that this bronze issue was struck prior to the silver coins, perhaps first testing different minting procedures with the bronze coinage before beginning to strike the precious metal issues.



256 Small Bronze (20mm, 5.78g ±). Dated year One, 132/3 C.E.

Obverse. 9Ω⊥ ×ℓƒℓ ×⊞ƒ ×ƳΩ - ŠNT 'ḤT LG'LT YŚR - Year One of the Redemption of Israel. Triform bunch of grapes with vine leaf hanging left from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤀 𐤓 𐤐 𐤕 𐤁 𐤅 𐤔 𐤕 (retrograde or mirror script) - 'L' ZNRH KH - Eleazar the Priest. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 174 (*same grape die*). Cf. Mesh ² 7, 7a and 8 for this grape die. Mildenberg, Eleazar 2. Mild 148 [30 examples cited, this coin being unrecorded]. Choice very fine 600-800



257 Small Bronze (18mm, 4.64g \). Dated year One, 132/3 C.E.

Obverse. 9Ω± ×147L ×84 ×9Ω - ŠNT 'HT LG'LT YŚR - Year One of the Redemption of Israel. Triform bunch of grapes with vine leaf hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. 0L 19 93 9F 3 (scattered, regularly lettered inscription) - 'L' ZN RH KH - Eleazar the Priest. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 173 (*same grape die*). Mesh ² 7a (*these dies*). Mildenberg, Eleazar 3. Mild 149 [large issue, this coin being #3, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Choice very fine 600-800

Ex Leu 28, lot 285.



258 Small Bronze (19mm, 5.31g ↓). Dated year One, 132/3 C.E.

Obverse. 9Ω± ×147L ×84 ×9Ω - ŠNT 'HT LG'LT YŚR - Year One of the Redemption of Israel. Triform bunch of grapes with vine leaf hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse 0L 4 39 99 3 3 (five letters scattered) - 'L' ZNRH KH - Eleazar the Priest. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 173 (*these dies*). Mesh ² 7 (*this coin*). Mildenberg, Eleazar 4. Mild 150 [mass issue (more than 100 specimens known), this coin being unrecorded]. Very fine 500-650

It remains theoretical as to the historical identity of "Eleazar the Priest," as mentioned on this coin. Eleazar of Modi'in, Rabbi Eleazar ben Azarija, as well as Rabbi Eleazar ben Harsom, have all been suggested as candidates.



259 Small Bronze (20.5mm, 5.17g ±). Dated year One, 132/3 C.E.

Obverse. 9Ω⊥ ×ℓƒ⌒ ×⊞ƒ ×ʎΩ - ŠNT 'ḤT LG'LT YŠR - Year One of the Redemption of Israel. Triform bunch of grapes with vine leaf hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤄 𐤋Ω 𐤆𐤁 𐤒 - YRW ŠLM - Jerusalem. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 175 (*these dies*). Mesh ² 10a (*this coin*). Mild 151 [16 examples cited, this coin being #12]. Understriking visible on reverse (original inscription is C NEP TPA [IANOC]; reverse struck over original Trajan obverse). Choice very fine
1200-1600



260 Small Bronze (19.5mm, 4.07g ±). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. ℓƒ W⊥𐤁 ⅈ⊥ 𐤆W - ŠB LḤR Ḥ'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Triform bunch of grapes with vine leaf and tendril hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤄 𐤋Ω 𐤆𐤁 𐤒 - YRW ŠLM - Jerusalem. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 198 (*same palm tree die*). Mesh ² 49b (*this coin*). Mild 153 [21 examples cited, this coin being #13]. Understriking visible on reverse (original striking is probably a bronze of Hadrian minted at Gaza; reverse struck over original obverse). Choice very fine
1000-1250



261 Small Bronze (20.5mm, 5.58g ↓). Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤅𐤓 𐤠𐤓 𐤓𐤠 𐤠𐤓 𐤠𐤓 - ŠB LHR YSR - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Triform bunch of grapes with vine leaf hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤅𐤓 𐤠𐤓 𐤓𐤠 𐤠𐤓 - YRW ŠLM - Jerusalem. Palm tree with seven branches , cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 198 (*these dies*). Mesh ² 49a (*this coin*). Mild 154 [31 examples cited, this coin being #2]. Nearly extremely fine
1000-1400



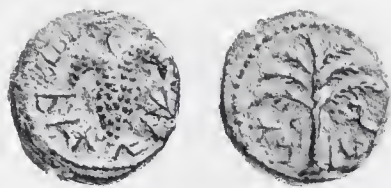
262 Small Bronze (20.5mm, 4.41g /). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤅𐤓 𐤠𐤓 𐤓𐤠 𐤠𐤓 𐤠𐤓 - LHRWT YRWŠL - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Triform bunch of grapes with vine leaf and tendrils hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤅𐤓 𐤠𐤓 𐤓𐤠 𐤠𐤓 𐤠𐤓 (five letters scattered) - 'L' ZN RH KH - Eleazar the Priest. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 213 (*these dies*). Mesh ² 79 (*these dies*). Mildenberg, Eleazar 6. Mild 155 [19 examples cited, this coin being #2, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Green and black patina, nearly extremely fine
2000-2500

Ex Leu 33, lot 439.



263 Small Bronzes (18mm, 4.72g ±). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. לְוָאֵלֶּךָ לְחֵרֶת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LHRWT YRWŠL - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Triform bunch of grapes with vine leaf and tendrils hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. שִׁמְעוֹן יְרוּשָׁלַם - YRW ŠLM - Jerusalem. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 214 (*these dies*). Mesh ² 80 (*these dies*). Mild 156 [large issue, this coin being unrecorded]. Very fine 150-200



264 Small Bronze (21mm, 3.94g ±). Undated, attributed to year 3, 134/5 C.E.

Obverse. לְוָאֵלֶּךָ לְחֵרֶת יְרוּשָׁלַם - LHRWT YRWŠL - For the Freedom of Jerusalem. Triform bunch of grapes with vine leaf and tendrils hanging from a cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. שִׁמְעוֹן יְרוּשָׁלַם - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 215 (*these dies*). Mesh ² 81 (*these dies*). Mild 158 [mass issue, this coin being #2, which was chosen to illustrate the dies]. Large flan, choice very fine 150-200

It was a similar coin of this type which was found in the Cave of Letters on 29 March 1960, validating this most important discovery to the period of the Bar Kokhba War. The papyri found in this treasure conclusively gave us the name of the rebel leader, Shim'on ben Kosiba, and so much information on the war itself, the suffering and hardships of the people. Most of the papyri letters from Shim'on ben Kosiba and his followers are written in Hebrew; the legal documents are generally penned in Aramaic and occasionally in Greek.

IRREGULAR BRONZE COINAGE



265 Medium Bronze (25mm, 11.13g ↓). Irregular coinage. Dated year One, 132/3 C.E.

Obverse. לִפְדּוּתִּי לִפְדּוּתִּי (SNT) 'HT LG'LT YŚR'L - Year One of the Redemption of Israel. Three-lobed vine leaf hanging on cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - שִׁמְעוֹן - Shim'on. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Cf. Mesh¹ 196. Mild 166 [this is the sole specimen cited from this die pair, being listed and illustrated as example #1].
Very fine 800-1000

While the irregular silver coinage develops from the last issues of the regular silver coinage, there is no such development in the irregular bronze issues. The coin dies engraved for the bronze coinage are very crude in the imitation of the regular issues, and some are indeed copies of copies. There is a crossover stylistically of types in which a grape cluster more resembles a vine leaf (as in the small bronze, lot 271), or vice versa (lot 268). In addition, the legends often are missing many letters, or deteriorate to the point in which a reverse legend is imitated for an obverse one (lot 269).



266 Medium Bronze (25mm, 11.35g ↓). Irregular coinage. Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. לִפְדּוּתִּי לִפְדּוּתִּי - ŠB LHR YŚR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Three-lobed vine leaf hanging on cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. שִׁמְעוֹן - שִׁמְעוֹן - Shim'on. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Mesh¹ 196 (*this coin*). Mild 168 [one example cited, this coin being unrecorded]. Very fine 800-1000



267 Medium Bronze (24mm, 9.90g ±). Irregular coinage. Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤋𐤕𐤑𐤡𐤓 𐤑𐤁𐤌𐤕𐤡 (coarse lettering) - ŠB LHR YŠR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Three-lobed vine leaf hanging on cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤔 𐤐𐤡 - Š' M - Shim'on. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Cf. Mesh¹ 196. Mild 171 [one example cited, this coin being unrecorded]. Choice very fine 900-1100



268 Medium Bronze (24mm, 9.18g ±). Irregular coinage. Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. W×𐤔 𐤌𐤁W (coarse imitation of following inscription) 𐤋𐤕𐤑𐤡𐤓 𐤑𐤁𐤌𐤕𐤡 - ŠB LHR YŠR'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Three-lobed vine leaf hanging on cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. 𐤡𐤔 𐤐𐤡 - Š' M (*mem* duplicated for misplaced *shin*) - Shim'on. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Cf. Mesh¹ 196. Mild 179 [three examples cited, this coin being unrecorded]. Green patina, very fine 600-800



269 Medium Bronze (24.5mm, 9.54g ±). Irregular coinage. Undated, attributable to year 2 or 3, 133/5 C.E.

Obverse. 𐤔 W (coarse imitation/abbreviation for normal reverse inscription?). Three-lobed vine leaf.

Reverse. [𐤔 ; questionable if engraved on die] 𐤐𐤡 - Š' [M] - Shim'on. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Cf. Mesh¹ 196. Mild 208 [this is the sole specimen cited from this die pair, being listed and illustrated as example #1]. Very fine 600-800



270 Medium Bronze (24.5mm, 11.24g ↓). Irregular coinage. Dated year 2, 133/4 C.E.

Obverse. פ P א P O L W (coarse imitation of following inscription) [L] פ P G W P B L J [W] - ŠB LHR ŠYR 'L - Year 2 of the Freedom of Israel. Five-lobed vine leaf of fine detail and delicacy hanging on cut branch; border of dots.

Reverse. א P O W W - ŠM 'WN - Shim'on. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

Cf. Mesh ¹ 196. Mild - (obverse and reverse dies unlisted). Nearly extremely fine

1000-1200



271 Small Bronze (21 mm, 4.72g \). Irregular coinage. Dated year One, 132/3 C.E.

Obverse. Coarse imitation for following inscription: P O L X L F L X B F X P W - ŠNT 'HT LG 'LT YSR - Year One of the Redemption of Israel. Leaf-like triform bunch of grapes.

Reverse. Coarse imitation for following inscription: L W P > P P - YRW ŠLM - Jerusalem. Palm tree with seven branches, cluster of three fruits on right and left; border of dots.

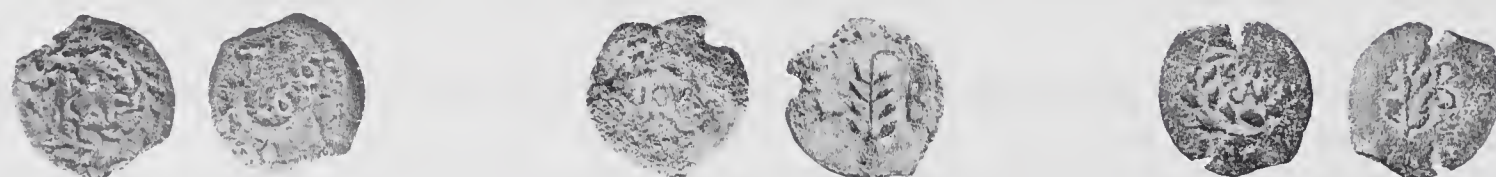
Mesh ¹ 198 variety. Mesh ² 11 (*this coin*). Mild 227 [this is the sole specimen cited from this die pair, being listed and illustrated as example #1]. Very fine

800-1000

Note the similarity of this grape cluster representation to the medium bronze vine leaf.

THE PROCURATORS FROM THE REIGNS OF AUGUSTUS TO NERO

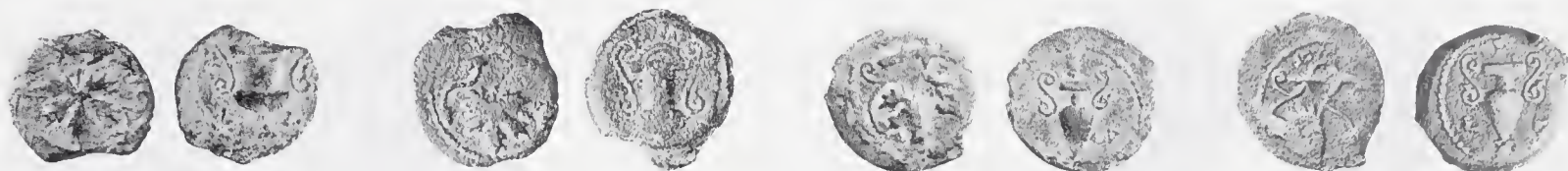
Valerius Gratus, 15-26 C.E., Procurator under Tiberius



272 Lot of three bronzes. Mesh ¹ 220, 221, 221A; Mesh ² p. 281-2, 6, 8, 9. Very good-fine

80-100

Valerius Gratus, 15-26 C.E., Procurator under Tiberius



273 Lot of four bronzes. Mesh ¹ 224 (2), 225 (2); Mesh ² p. 282, 15 (2), 16 (2). Very good-fine 120-150

Pontius Pilatus, 26-36 C.E., Procurator under Tiberius



274 Lot of six bronzes. Mesh ¹ 230 (3), 230A (2), 231 (1); Mesh ² p. 283, 23b (2), 23d (3), 24 (1). Very fine 300-400

The lituus or augural staff, incorporated in the coinage of Pilatus, later became a Christian symbol of Christ as the Good Shepherd, and was thus transformed into the bishop's crozier.

THE IOVΔΑΙΑΣ ΕΛΛΩΚΥΑΣ ISSUES

Vespasian, (69) 70-79 C.E.



275 Medium Bronze (21mm, 6.70g \pm). Minted at Caesarea.

Obverse. [ΑΥ]ΤΟΚΡΟΥ ΕΣΠΚΑΙΣΣΕΒ. Laureate head right of Vespasian; border of dots.

Reverse. IOVΔΑΙΑΣ ΣΑΛΩΚΥΑ[Σ]. Nike standing to right inscribing shield; behind, palm tree; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 235. Mesh ² p. 288, 1. Fine-very fine 250-350

The reverse inscription on these coins is the Greek equivalent of IVDAEA CAPTA, or Judaea captured. On this coin, the reverse legend omits the *iota*, which should be the third letter from the end of the inscription.

Titus, 70-81 C.E.



276 Medium Bronze (19mm, 8.03g \uparrow). Minted at Caesarea.

Obverse. AVTOKPTITOS KAIΣAP. Laureate head right of Titus; border of dots.

Reverse. IOVΔAIACEA ΛWKVIAE Nike standing to right inscribing AV[T/T/KAI] on shield; behind, palm tree; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 236. Mesh ² p. 288, 2. Choice very fine

250-300

This coinage of Caesarea was designed to remind all of Rome's dominance and victory in the Jewish War. Most all of the coinage (an exception was the previous lot) portrayed Titus, the conqueror of Jerusalem, rather than his father Vespasian, who was honored as emperor on a vast majority of the Roman minted Judaea Capta issues.

Titus, 70-81 C.E.



277 Medium Bronze (21mm, 9.10g \uparrow). Minted at Caesarea.

Obverse. AVTOKPTITO EKAIΣAP. Laureate head right of Titus, rectangular countermark of male head (emperor?) right, struck at neck; border of dots.

Reverse. IOYΔAIACEA ΛWKYIAE. Nike standing to right inscribing AVT/T/KAI on shield; behind, palm tree; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 236 var (no countermark). Mesh ² p. 288, 2c (*this coin*). Choice very fine

400-500

Titus, 70-81 C.E.



278 Medium Bronze (24mm, 10.78g \pm). Minted at Caesarea.

Obverse. AVTOKP· TI[TOΣ KAIΣAP]. Laureate head right of Titus.

Reverse. IOYΔΑΙΑCE AΛWKYIAC. Trophy; below and left, personification of Judaea seated mourning; below and right, shield; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 238. Mesh ² p. 289, 5. Somewhat cleaned, otherwise about extremely fine/fine+

400-500

Ex NFA III, lot 101.

DOMITIAN'S COINAGE IN JUDAEA

Domitian, 81-96 C.E.



279 Medium Bronze (22mm, 14.05g \pm). Minted at Caesarea.

Obverse. [IMP DOMITIANVS CAESAR DIVI F AVG]. Laureate head right of Domitian; border of dots.

Reverse. [DIVOS] T AVG. Titus standing, facing, holding spear and parazonium; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 246. Mesh ² p. 290, 2. Rare, very good-fine

400-500

Sometimes referred to as the "Roman Administration in Judaea," Domitian's coinage in Judaea was entirely minted at Caesarea, circulating in all of Judaea, Samaria and the Galilee area. The coin types were primarily derived from Roman models and the coinage was seemingly quite considerable. Note that the portrait seems more akin to Titus rather than to Domitian (see lots 280-284).

Domitian, 81-96 C.E.



280 Medium Bronze (19.5mm, 7.87g¹). Minted at Caesarea.

Obverse. IMP DOMIT AVG GERM. Laureate head right of Domitian; border of dots.

Reverse. VICTOR AVG. Trophy; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 244. Mesh ² p. 290, 5. About very fine

300-400

Partly as a result of their compassion for the Jews and sympathy for their plight, Domitian's cousin Flavius Clemens, Roman Consul, and his wife Flavia Domitilla the Younger, were respectively executed and banished; thus the threat of one of their son's ever becoming emperor was effectively and purposefully blocked by Domitian's cruel actions.

Domitian, 81-96 C.E.



281 Medium Bronze (23.5mm, 9.48g¹). Minted at Caesarea.

Obverse. DOMITIANVS CAES AVG GERMANICVS. Laureate head left of Domitian; border of dots.

Reverse. Minerva advancing left, holding trophy in right hand, shield and spear in left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 243. Mesh ² p. 291, 7. Very fine

350-450

Domitian, 81-96 C.E.



282 Medium Bronze (19mm, 6.42g \uparrow). Minted at Caesarea.

Obverse. IMP DOMITIANVS CAESAR GERMANICVS. Laureate head right of Domitian; border of dots.

Reverse. Nike advancing left, holding wreath in right hand, trophy in left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 241. Mesh ² p. 291, 8. Green patina, very fine

275-350

Domitian, 81-96 C.E.



283 Medium Bronze (28mm, 16.19g \uparrow). Minted at Caesarea, 92 C.E.

Obverse. IMP CAES DOMIT AVG GERM P M TR P XI. Radiate head right of Domitian wearing aegis; border of dots.

Reverse. IMP XXI COS XVI CENS P P P. Palm tree with seven branches, two clusters of dates; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 239. Mesh ² p. 291, 9. Choice very fine

500-700

Certainly the loveliest and most elegant of all the types of Domitian's coinage in Judaea.

Domitian, 81-96 C.E.



284 Medium Bronze (24mm, 11.51g \downarrow). Minted at Caesarea, 93 C.E.

Obverse. IMP CAES DOMIT AVG GERM P M TR P XII. Laureate head right of Domitian; border of dots.

Reverse. IMP XXIII COS XVI CENS P P P. Nike advancing left, holding wreath in right hand, trophy in left; border of dots.

Mesh ¹ 240. Mesh ² p. 291, 10. Very fine/fine

350-450

It was at Caesarea that Vespasian was proclaimed emperor of all Rome by his soldiers in 69 C.E. In honor of this, Caesarea was named the "First Flavian Imperial Colony." Later, his sons Titus and Domitian continued coinage at Caesarea, the capital city of Roman Palestine and the geographical location of an especially well-situated harbor.

THE JUDAEA CAPTA ISSUES

Vespasian, 69-79 C.E.



285 Aureus (Gold, 7.33g \downarrow). Minted at Rome, 70/1 C.E.

Obverse. IMP CAESAR VESPASIANVS AVG. Laureate head right of Vespasian; border of dots.

Reverse. Jewess seated right with hands in front, mourning; behind, trophy consisting of helmet, cuirass, oblong and round shield, greaves and two round shields; IVDAEA in exergue; border of dots.

Cohen 225. Cf. BMC 32. Cf. RIC 15. Expressive portrait, extremely fine

27,500-32,500

Ex Leu 7, lot 355.

The Judaea Capta issues here are purely Roman coins, created to commemorate and propagandize the Roman victory of the Jewish War. In addition, they were designed to stabilize the political upset of 68-9 C.E., and to firmly establish the Flavian dynasty. Public relations is not a new field of expertise! Here, in the present catalogue, we are arranging them by metal: first the gold issues, then silver and finally the copper alloy coinage. Within each division, they are chronologically ordered.

Vespasian, 69-79 C.E.



286 Aureus (Gold, 7.34g ↓). Minted at Rome, 70/1 C.E.

Obverse. IMP CAESAR VESPASIANVS AVG. Laureate head right of Vespasian; border of dots.

Reverse. Jewess seated right with hands bound behind her, mourning; behind, palm tree, IVDAEA in exergue; border of dots.

Cohen -, cf. 230. BMC -, cf. 43 (silver denarius of the same type). Cf. Sotheby 1972 (Durkee to Metropolitan), 59. This variant, with palm tree instead of trophy, of great rarity. Scuff at edge, otherwise superb and nearly mint state

30,000-35,000

Ex Henry Platt Hall Sale (Glendining, 1950), Part II, lot 1161.

Vespasian, 69-79 C.E.



287 Aureus (Gold, 7.45g ↗). Minted at Antioch, 72 C.E.

Obverse. IMP VESPAS AVG P M TRI P P P COS IIII. Laureate bust of Vespasian to left, wearing paludamentum; border of dots.

Reverse. VICTORIA AVGVSTI. Victory standing to right, looking back, holding palm branch and placing hand on trophy which is to left; border of dots.

Cohen -. Cf. BMC 509 for reverse type and plate 18, #15 for the same obverse die paired with a reverse portraying Titus. The same obverse die has also been connected with a remarkable reverse die proclaiming PAX AVGVSTI (BMC plate 18, #18 and Leu 53, lot 217). Magnificent portrait of the aging emperor. A few light marks at the edge, otherwise choice very fine

20,000-25,000

Ex Leu 28, lot 405.

Ex Apostolo Zeno I (Auktion Dorotheum, 1955), lot 414.

Vespasian, 69-79 C.E.



288 Denarius (Silver, 3.35g ↓). Minted at Rome, 70/1 C.E.

Obverse. IMP CAESAR VESPASIANVS AVG. Laureate head right of Vespasian; border of dots.

Reverse. Jewess seated right with hands in front, mourning; behind, trophy consisting of helmet, cuirass, oblong and round shield, greaves and two round shields; IVDAEA in exergue; border of dots.

Cohen 226. BMC 35. RIC 15. Well struck, choice very fine

1000-1500

Ex J. Schulman 10 VI 74, lot 1617.

Roman silver coins were struck *al marco*, or a certain number to a Roman pound of silver. While their flans were fashioned nearly the same size, their weight could vary significantly. The fineness of the silver coinage during Vespasian's reign was approximately 90%. The gold coinage, however, was minted *al pezzo*, or by the piece. Each planchet was carefully weighed before striking, allowing for weight adjustment, usually by filing. Note also the axis direction for Roman products is ↑ ↓ (or a small variant thereof), sometimes called coin orientation, rather than ↑ ↑, or medallion orientation.

Vespasian, 69-79 C.E.



289 Denarius (Silver, 3.48g ↓). Minted at Rome, 70/1 C.E.

Obverse. IMP CAESAR VESPASIANVS AVG. Laureate head right of Vespasian; border of dots.

Reverse. Jewess seated right with hands in front, mourning; behind, trophy consisting of helmet, cuirass, oblong and round shield, greaves and two round shields; IVDAEA in exergue; border of dots.

Cohen 226. BMC 35. RIC 15. Choice very fine

750-1250

Ex Auctiones 4 XII 73, lot 371.

Nero surprisingly appointed Vespasian governor to Judaea in 67 C.E. with the supposed losing position of quelling such a problematic group of dissidents. The man who irreverently fell asleep during one of Nero's cantatas was now in charge of defeating the formidable "band of brigands" fighting for their freedom.

Vespasian, 69-79 C.E.



290 Denarius (Silver, 3.49g ±). Minted at Rome, 72/3 C.E.

Obverse. IMP CAES VESP AVG P M COS IIII. Laureate head right of Vespasian; border of dots.

Reverse. VICTORIA AVGVSTI. Victory advancing right, holding palm over left shoulder, and about to place wreath on a standard set in ground to right; border of dots.

Cohen 618. BMC 75 (plate 2, #8; *this coin*). Nicely toned, superb

1750-2250

Ex Sternberg 28 XI 75, lot 53.

Ex Count de Salis Collection.

The diversity in the array of Roman minted Judaea Capta types well shows the importance of the Roman victory, in addition to the ingenuity and skill of the artists.

Vespasian, 69-79 C.E.



291 Denarius (Silver, 3.66g ±). Minted at Ephesus, 72/3 C.E.

Obverse. IMP CAES VESP AV-G P M COS IIII. Laureate head right of Vespasian; border of dots.

Reverse. JUDAEA CAPTA. Jewess seated right under palm tree; behind, Titus in military dress standing right, foot on globe, holding vertical spear and parazonium; border of dots.

Cohen 645. BMC 511. RIC unlisted. Very rare; large flan, extremely fine

3000-3500

Ex Leu 22, lot 228.

Anepigraphic, this artistic reverse shows an especially well-composed design derivative of the salient types. It is reminiscent of a medallion, showing both simplicity and strength of depiction; there is no necessity for inscription.

Vespasian, 69-79 C.E.



292 Denarius (Silver, 3.20g ↓). Minted at Rome, 75 C.E.

Obverse. IMP CAESAR VESPASIANVS AVG. Laureate head right of Vespasian; border of dots.

Reverse. PON MAX TR P COS VI. Victory standing to left on prow, holding wreath and palm; border of dots.

Cohen 368. BMC 166. RIC 94. Nearly extremely fine

900-1200

Ex NFA IX, lot 439.

Vespasian, 69-79 C.E.



293 Fourrée Denarius (Silver over copper core, 2.94g /). Minted in Gaul (Lugdunum?), 75/9 C.E.

Obverse. IMP CAESAR VESPASIANVS AVG. Laureate head right of Vespasian; border of dots.

Reverse. IVDAEA DEVICTA. Jewess standing left with hands bound in front of her, mourning; to right, palm tree; border of dots.

Cohen 242 var. BMC 371. RIC 148 B. Very rare. Numerous "test" markings in field, otherwise about very fine

750-1250

Ex NFA IX, lot 440.

Here the conquered personification of Judaea is presented in larger than life size (the equivalent of a mature palm tree, with two date fruit). The IVDAEA DEVICTA reverse type is one of the rarest of the entire series, and this, being a fourrée, makes it all the more fascinating. Fourrées were usually issued concurrently with the regular ones and when their thin silver coat wore, the copper *anima* would be exposed.

Vespasian, 69-79 C.E.



294 Quinarius (Silver, 1.55g ±). Minted at Rome, 75/9 C.E.

Obverse. IMP CAESAR VESPASIANVS AVG. Laureate head right of Vespasian; border of dots.

Reverse. VICTORIA AVGVST[I]. Victory advancing right, holding wreath and palm branch; border of dots.

Cohen 614. BMC 287. Very rare. Bold portrait, reverse flan crack; otherwise extremely fine 2500-3000

Ex Leu 22, lot 230.

Ex Sternberg 30 XI 73, lot 80.

This is the work of an able die engraver who created an exquisite portrait and an elegant Victory on this rarely minted coin denomination, which is equal to one-half denarius.

Vespasian, 69-79 C.E.



295 Denarius (Silver, 3.48g ±). Minted at Rome, 79 C.E.

Obverse. IMP CAESAR VESPASIANVS AVG. Laureate head right of Vespasian; border of dots.

Reverse. TR POT X COS VIII. Victory advancing left, setting round shield on trophy; under trophy, captive left, mourning; border of dots.

Cohen 552. BMC 246. Rare; light obverse scratching in field, otherwise nearly extremely fine 1500-2000

Ex Leu 20, lot 265.

Vespasian, 69-79 C.E.



296 Denarius (Silver, 3.37g ↓). Minted posthumously by Titus at Rome, 80/1 C.E.

Obverse. DIVVS AVGVSTVS VESPASIANVS. Laureate head right of Vespasian; border of dots.

Reverse. Victory advancing left, setting round shield on trophy; under trophy, Jewish captive left, mourning; in field, EX-S C; border of dots.

Cohen 144. BMC 112. Light scratches in right obverse field, otherwise nearly extremely fine

1000-1500

Ex Auctiones 4 XII 73, lot 373.

Vespasian, 69-79 C.E.



297 Sestertius (Orichalcum, 26.66g \). Minted at Rome, mid-71 C.E.

Obverse. IMP CAES VESPASIAN AVG P M TR P P P COS III. Laureate head right of Vespasian; border of dots.

Reverse. IVDEA CAPTA. Jewess mourning, seated right on cuirass to right of palm tree; to left of palm tree, captive Jew standing to right with hands bound; shields, spears and helmet at feet, S C in exergue; border of dots.

Cohen 234 var. BMC 534. Kraay plate 10, #35. Even green patina showing minor signs of modern enhancement, extremely fine

15,000-18,500

Kraay has (p.55) convincingly argued that the Judaea Capta sestertii with this obverse legend were "closely connected with the triumph of Vespasian and Titus celebrated at the end of June."

Vespasian, 69-79 C.E.



298 Sestertius (Orichalcum, 26.03g ↓). Minted at Rome, mid-71 C.E.

Obverse. IMP CAES VESPASIAN AVG P M TR P P P COS III. Laureate head right of Vespasian; border of dots.

Reverse. IVDAEA CAPTA. Jewess mourning, seated left on cuirass to left of palm tree; to right of palm tree, captive Jew standing left with hands bound; shields and spears at feet, S C in exergue; border of dots.

Cohen 238. BMC 542 Cf. Kraay, *Essays Sutherland*, p. 53. Cf. Hess-Leu 3 IV 63, lot J32 (*these dies*). Red-brown patina, very fine 5000-7000

Ex Leu 10, lot 96.

Vespasian, 69-79 C.E.



299 Sestertius (Orichalcum, 25.42g ↓). Minted at Tarraco, mid-71 C.E.

Obverse. IMP CAES VESPASIAN AVG P M TR P P P COS III. Laureate head left of Vespasian; border of dots.

Reverse. VICTORIA AVGVSTI. Victory with foot on globe standing right inscribing shield set on palm; to right, mourning Jewess seated left on arms, S C in exergue; border of dots.

Cohen 629 var. BMC 785 var. (Jewess seated right). Possessing a superlative portrait of Vespasian; a great rarity. The combination with the obverse portrait left and the Jewess left does not seem to be recorded. Green patina, extremely fine 15,000-20,000

Ex Leu 33, lot 36.

Ex Auktion Aes Rude, 3 XI 78, lot 407.

Vespasian, 69-79 C.E.



300 As (Copper, 10.32g ±). Minted at Rome, mid-71 C.E.

Obverse. IMP CAES VESPASIAN AVG COS III. Laureate head right of Vespasian; border of dots.

Reverse. [IVDAEA] CAPTA. Jewess mourning, seated right on cuirass to right of palm tree; underneath palm tree and to left, helmet, shields and spears; border of dots.

Cohen 246. BMC 607. Red-green patina, extremely fine

1750-2250

Ex Superior 15 VI 76, lot 212.

Ex Hess-Leu 41, lot 134.

Vespasian, 69-79 C.E.



301 Sestertius (Orichalcum, 25.68 g ±). Minted at Rome, 72/3 C.E.

Obverse. IMP CAES VESPAS AVG P M TR P P P COS III. Laureate head right of Vespasian; border of dots.

Reverse. VICTORIA AVGVSTI. Victory with foot on globe standing right inscribing shield set on palm, S C in exergue; border of dots.

Unlisted in Cohen with COS III. BMC 625. Red-brown patina, very fine

3500-4500

Orichalcum is a brass alloy, normally about 80% copper and 20% zinc in these first century issues. The impressive and handsome sestertius was equivalent to four copper asses, four sestertii to a silver denarius. While today we treasure their colorful patinas achieved by their resting in soil, sestertii must have been also beautiful in their bright and brassy yellow color when fresh from the mint.

Vespasian, 69-79 C.E.



302 Quadrans (Copper, 1.91g ↓). Minted at Rome, 72/3 C.E.

Obverse. IMP VESPASI - AN AVG. Palm tree.

Reverse. P M TR P P- P COS IIII. *Vexillum*; S C in field.

Cohen 340. BMC 626. Dark brown patina, extremely fine

600-800

Ex Leu 25, lot 270.

Vespasian, 69-79 C.E.



303 Quadrans (Copper, 2.56g ↓). Minted at Rome, 72/3 C.E.

Obverse. IMP VESP-ASIAN A[VG]. Palm tree.

Reverse. P M TR P P- P COS IIII. *Vexillum*; S C in field.

Cohen 340. BMC 626. Cleaned, choice very fine

300-500

Vespasian, 69-79 C.E.



304 As (Copper, 10.77g /). Minted at Lugdunum, 77/8 C.E.

Obverse. IMP CAES VESPASIAN AVG COS VIII P P. Laureate head right of Vespasian, globe at truncation; border of dots.

Reverse. IVDAEA CAPTA. Jewess mourning, seated right on cuirass to right of palm tree; underneath palm tree to right and left, shields and spears; S C in exergue; border of dots.

Cohen 240. BMC 845. Very fine

1200-1500

Titus Caesar, 69-79 C.E.



305 Denarius (Silver, 3.44g \). Minted at Rome, 79 C.E. (23 June - 1 July).

Obverse. T CAESAR IMP VESPASIANVS. Laureate head right of Titus; border of dots.

Reverse. TR POT VIII COS VII. Male captive kneeling right with hands bound behind back, in front of trophy consisting of helmet, cuirass, crossed swords and round shield; border of dots.

Cohen 334. BMC 1. RIC 208. Very fine

1000-1500

Ex Superior 15 VI 76, lot 213.

After the four month siege of Jerusalem and the Roman victory of the war, Titus had honors given him that were formerly reserved only for triumphant emperors. It was nine years before his father Vespasian was to die a natural death from a fever, although there were earlier unsuccessful conspiracies against his life. In as many years as Titus was to rule Rome, there were three catastrophes - a horrible fire in Rome, a devastating plague and the calamitous eruption of Mount Vesuvius (only a month or two after this very coin was struck).

Titus Caesar, 69-79 C.E.



306 Dupondius (Orichalcum, 8.58g /). Minted likely at Commagene, 77/8 C.E.

Obverse. T CAESAR IMPER PONT. Laureate head right of Titus; border of dots.

Reverse. TR POT COS VI CENSOR. Titus standing facing, placing right hand over trophy at left; Jew at left, with hands bound, kneeling; S C in exergue; border of dots.

Cohen unlisted. BMC unlisted. The only specimen recorded and thus of great importance; very fine 3000-3500

Ex Sternberg 18 XI 82, lot 569.

Titus Caesar, 69-79 C.E.



307 As (Copper, 10.32g /). Minted at Lugdunum, 77/8 C.E.

Obverse. T CAES IMP AVG F TR P COS VI CENSOR. Laureate head right of Titus, globe at truncation; border of dots.

Reverse. IVDAEA CAPTA. Jewess seated right under palm tree mourning; behind, cuirass, shield and *vexillum*; S C in exergue; border of dots.

Cohen 118. BMC 862 var. (different arms presented). About very fine 900-1200

Ex A. Hess, Trau Collection (1935), lot 737.

Titus, 79-81 C.E.



308 Aureus (Gold, 7.38g ↓). Minted at Rome, 79 C.E. (after 1 July).

Obverse. IMP TITVS CAES VESPASIAN AVG P M. Laureate head right of Titus; border of dots.

Reverse. TR P VIII IMP XV COS VII P P. Male captive kneeling right with hands bound behind back, in front of trophy consisting of helmet, cuirass, crossed swords and round shield; border of dots.

Cohen 296. BMC 30, plate 44, #18 (*these dies*). RIC 17. Very rare. Superb, nearly mint state 20,000-25,000

Ex Leu 25, lot 276.

Ex Münzen und Medaillen 19 (1959), lot 199.

Ex Hirsch 34 (1914), lot 1018.

Titus, 79-81 C.E.



309 Aureus (Gold, 7.17g /). Minted at Rome, 80 C.E. (1 January - 1 July).

Obverse. IMP TITVS CAES VESPASIAN AVG P M. Laureate head left of Titus; border of dots.

Reverse. TR P IX IMP XV COS VIII P P. Two Jewish captives, man and woman, seated back to back under trophy composed of cuirass, helmet and two oblong shields; border of dots.

Cohen 305. BMC 36. RIC 21b (as silver denarius). Rare. A few marks on cheek and light scratches in exergue of reverse, otherwise very fine 9000-12,000

Ex Auctiones 30 IX 76, lot 367.

Ex Mazzini collection, plate LXXXIII, 307.

Titus, 79-81 C.E.



310 Denarius (Silver, 3.06g /). Minted at Rome, 80 C.E. (1 January - 1 July).

Obverse. IMP TITVS CAES VESPASIAN AVG P M. Laureate head right of Titus; border of dots.

Reverse. TR P IX IMP XV COS VIII P P. Two Jewish captives, man and woman, seated back to back under trophy composed of cuirass, helmet and two oblong shields; border of dots.

Cohen 306. BMC 37. RIC 21a. Lovely toning, choice very fine

1800-2200

Ex Auctiones 4 XII 73, lot 374.

Titus, 79-81 C.E.



311 Sestertius (Orichalcum, 27.30g /). Minted at Rome, 80/1 C.E.

Obverse. IMP T CAES VESP AVG P M TR P P P COS VIII. Laureate head left of Titus; border of dots.

Reverse. Jewess seated left on pile of arms under palm tree; on right, Jew with hands bound standing right; below, helmet and shield; in field, IVD-CAP, SC in exergue; border of dots.

Cohen 110. BMC 165. RIC 91. Green and red patina, some tooling; very fine

2500-3000

Ex Superior 15 VI 76, lot 215.

Titus, 79-81 C.E.



312 Sestertius (Orichalcum, 25.53g /). Minted at Rome, 80/1 C.E.

Obverse. IMP T CAES DIVI VESP· P· F· AV-G P· M· TR· P· P· P COS· VIII. Laureate head right of Titus; border of dots.

Reverse. IVDAEA CAPTA. Jewess seated right under palm tree, mourning; behind, Titus as prince standing right with foot on helmet, holding vertical spear and parazonium; S C in exergue; border of dots.

Cohen unlisted. BMC unlisted. Green and brown patina, very fine

6000-8500

Ex Leu 20, lot 275.

While a well-known reverse for Vespasian, this variety is extremely rare portraying Titus as *Imperator*.

Domitian Caesar, 69-81 C.E.



313 Semis (Orichalcum, 4.50g ↓). Minted at Rome, 80/1 C.E.

Obverse. [D]OMIT CAESAR DIVI VESPASI A[VG]. Laureate head right of Domitian; border of dots.

Reverse. Jewess seated to left of palm tree, mourning; to right, shields and yoke(?); IVD-CAP in field, trace of C of S C (?) in right field; border of dots.

Cohen unlisted. BMC unlisted, but cf. BMC (Titus) 259 for a similar semis portraying Titus. Presumably unpublished and of great interest. Fine-very fine

1500-2000

Although Domitian had personally nothing to do with the conflict, his portrayal as a son of the emperor Vespasian is nevertheless present on a few rare varieties of the Roman Judaea Capta coinage.

NERVA'S *FISCVS IVDAICVS* POLICY

Nerva, 96-98 C.E.



314 Sestertius (Orichalcum, 21.00g ±). Minted at Rome, 96 C.E.

Obverse. IMP·NERVA·CAES·AVG·-P·M·TR·P·COS·II·P·P. Laureate bust right of Nerva, drapery on left shoulder; border of dots.

Reverse. FISC·IVDAICI·CALVMNIA·SVBLATA. Palm tree with two bunches of dates, S C in field; border of dots.

Cohen 55. BMC 88. Very rare; fine portrait and hard jade green patina, choice very fine

12,000-16,000

Ex Sternberg 25 XI 76, lot 476.

Ex Leu and M+M 2 XI 67 (Niggeler), lot 1193.

Ex Naville-Ars Classica XVIII (de Sartiges), lot 174.

Ex Sotheby Mackerell (1906), lot 90.

Ex Sotheby Bunbury (1895), lot 641.

For nearly three hundred years (from the reign of Vespasian until Julian the Hellene), the "Jewish tax" was collected from each male Jew, amounting to two denarii (half of one Tyrian shekel), the same amount formerly due as Temple tax. While Nerva did *not* abolish this tax, he felt abhorrence for the shameful manner in which it was collected.

HADRIAN'S *ADVENTVS AVGVSTI IVDAEAE*

Hadrian, 117-138 C.E.



315 Sestertius (Orichalcum, 23.15g ±). Minted at Rome, 130/2 C.E.

Obverse. HADRIANVS- AVG COS III P P. Laureate head right of Hadrian; border of dots.

Reverse. Hadrian, togate, standing right raising right hand; facing him on right stands personification of Judaea who is draped, sacrificing with patera over alter, by which lies a bull; in center, two children, holding palms, standing left; behind Judaea, a third child also standing left; S-C in field, IVDAEA in exergue; border of dots.

Cohen 872 var. (obverse as bare head right). BMC 1757. RIC 853 [as R³]. Of extreme rarity, fine 6000-8500

There were two types of sestertii minted at Rome by Hadrian pertaining to Judaea: one with the legend *ADVENTI AVGVSTI IVDAEAE*, and the present one, with solely *IVDAEA* in the exergue. In recent scholarship it has been stressed that Hadrian did not visit the East after the outbreak of the Bar Kokhba War and that the reverse image corresponds to Hadrian's ideal of his province Judaea. The former dating to the end of the emperor's reign has, therefore, to be abandoned. Around the time this coin was minted, certainly before the war, Hadrian "founded" and re-named Jerusalem "Aelia Capitolina," after his family name, *Aelius*. Following the Roman victory of the Bar Kokhba War, Hadrian changed the name of the province of Judaea to Syria-Palaestina.

Notes



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